

Roads system adequate by end of decade, Government promises

By Michael Bally, Transport Editor

Britain's roads programme is racing ahead, helped by lower inflation and fierce competition among contractors, the Government claimed yesterday.

More than £1,000m will be spent on roads in England this year, and by the end of the decade almost all the need for inter-urban roads will have been met.

When that time comes, according to a White Paper published yesterday, the emphasis will shift from roads between towns and cities to movement within them.

Talks are taking place with local authorities about a revised primary road network to meet the needs of the next century, and how to cope with traffic in towns.

The answer to the last is unlikely to be simply more roads,

access for industry and commerce; and improve the condition and appearance of the roads, the White Paper says.

"A comprehensive replacement of the road system in places like inner London is not the answer," the White Paper says. "But there will be places where new or significantly improved roads are the right answer."

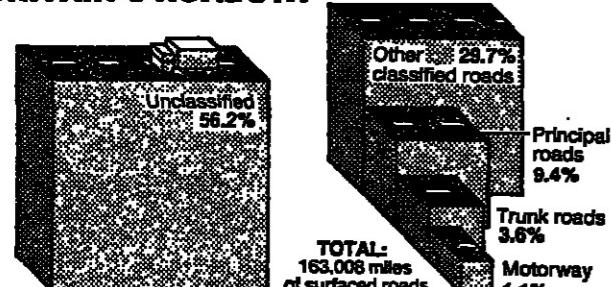
These will be combined with improved techniques of traffic management; parking controls and lorry routes; and the needs of public transport.

Such urban roads as are built

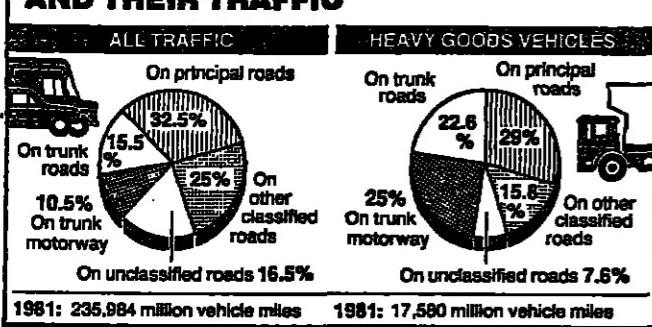
will need to ease congestion, especially where public transport would be helped; take heavy through traffic out of shopping and residential areas; improve

and maintain local authority

BRITAIN'S ROADS...



AND THEIR TRAFFIC



Job losses ahead, Jenkin tells TUC

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday told a delegation from the TUC to expect substantial job losses from the Government's job-capping plan.

He also admitted that there would be "disruption, distress and hardship" because of the abolition of the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties. Jobs would be lost, he said, but he would give no precise figure.

Speaking to members of the TUC's local government committee, which represents two million workers in municipal employment, Mr Jenkin denied that he planned to cut 300,000 jobs over two years, a figure estimated by the TUC.

Pre-Christmas job prospects are brighter

By Andrew Cornelius

Britain's 2.9m unemployed stand a better chance of finding jobs before Christmas than at any time in the past four years, according to a survey of employment prospects published today.

The survey of nearly 1,200 employers representing more than three million staff was conducted by Manpower, the temporary employment services company. It reveals that twice as many companies intend to take on extra staff in the next quarter as expect job losses, which makes it the brightest fourth quarter of the year since the end of 1979.

Normally the Christmas quarter sees a sharp fall in recruitment activity, but this time the proportion of employers expecting to take on staff is virtually the same as the relatively buoyant last quarter.

Ballot urged as Vauxhall strike threat recedes

By Our Labour Editor

The threat of an all-out strike by 14,500 manual workers at Vauxhall Motors receded yesterday after some shop stewards called for a secret ballot and Mr Terence Duffy, leader of the engineering workers, appealed to the workers to await the outcome of a national conference of the two parties.

Mass meetings have been called at the company's plants in Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port to reject a "final offer" of 8 per cent pay rises spread over 14 months, and to prepare for industrial action. The unions are claiming £25 a week.

The mass meetings began at Ellesmere Port yesterday when 1,800 production workers belonging to the Transport and General Workers' Union voted to reject the company's offer.

Castle sale fetches £2.1m so far

By Louise Nicholson

Christie's three-day sale of the contents of Luttrell Somers Castle outside Dublin continued yesterday as successfully as it began on Monday, bringing the total so far to £12,656,759 (£2.1m).

The Society of Metropolitan Treasurers has rejected the Government's plan to control rates as uncertain and unsound.

The society, representing finance officials from London and the metropolitan areas, said it had no wish to get into a political argument with the Government. Instead it had evaluated the practical aspects of the Government's scheme to cap the rates of up to 20 high-spending councils and found it wanting.

Another family portrait made £12,140.40. It shows Mrs Plunket's father, Arthur Ernest Guinness, first Lord Iveagh, and grandmother of Mrs Aileen Plunket, who is selling the castle and its contents.

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Dancer 'willing to try body-building'

Geoffrey Wynne, the ballet dancer dismissed by the London Festival Ballet who was allegedly not strong enough to lift a seven-stone ballerina, said yesterday he was not weak or over the hill at 35.

He was thin, he admitted, but could have taken up body-building had anyone told him. The ballet claims that the former soloist lacked the "necessary masculinity" for the job, and became increasingly "effeminate".

But Mr Wynne, of King's Road, Chelsea, told a London industrial tribunal yesterday that he thought he was dismissed

because of the after-effects of a traffic accident in 1980, which left him with an injured neck. He is claiming unfair dismissal.

He had been required to lift ballerinas in several ballerinas, and at no time had there been any complaints about his partnering, he told the tribunal. "I know perfectly well that I don't have super technique, but it is no worse than some soloists who were on the same contract as me."

Mr David Long, ballet master, said earlier: "Geoffrey Wynne did not fit the status of the company."

The hearing was adjourned until October 25, when both sides will make their final submissions.

Man loses arm

Mr John Bancroft a farm worker, aged 38, of Main Street, Harston, was recovering in Grantham General Hospital yesterday after his right arm was caught in a potato harvesting machine. It was amputated below the elbow.

The trial continues today.

Closed shop ultimatum

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

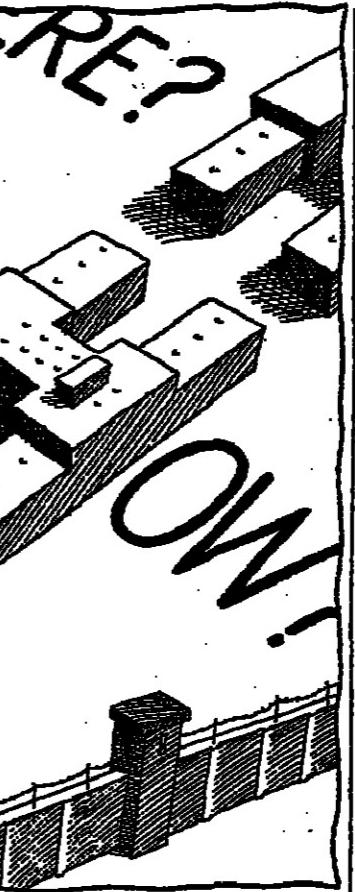
Leaders of the 10 English and Welsh water authorities have told trade unions that the authorities' demand for an end to the closed shop in the water supply industry is not negotiable. The ending of the closed shop is part of a fundamental administrative change demanded by Ministers last year.

The National Water Council, a quango founded by the Labour Government in 1974, will be abolished on Friday and succeeded by the Water Authorities Association, a trade body born of the council's statutory powers.

The association will be led by the chairman of the 10 authorities and 28 companies which supply water in England and Wales.

They have met as a transitional committee and have put forward a package to unions. The abolition of the closed shop is its most contentious element.

Authority leaders deny union claims that they have been told by



Paisley hits at Maze security lapses

From Richard Ford, Belfast

As the hunt for the 21 Provisional IRA escapees from the Maze prison continued throughout Northern Ireland yesterday the Reverend Ian Paisley alleged that there had been 12 serious lapses of security in the jail, allowing the prisoners to flee.

But the Northern Ireland Office denied the Democratic Unionist Party leader's claim that Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, had told him of security failure and his allegation that the main gate was open at the time of the escape.

With Mr Paisley saying that the inquiry begun by Sir James Hennessy, Chief Inspector of Prisons, would be a "washout", some of the recaptured prisoners were being questioned by the police at the Caslereagh holding centre in east Belfast.

Others were being interrogated inside the high-security jail by a team of detectives headed by a Detective Chief Superintendent which has been set up to investigate the murder of Mr James Ferris, aged 43, the prison officer, stabbed to death in the break-out on Sunday.

All visits and receipt of food parcels at the Maze have been banned by the Prison Officers' Association as a mark of respect for Mr Ferris whose funeral, which will be attended by Mr Nicholas Scott, Under-Secretary of State with responsibility for prisons, tomorrow. Three prison officers injured in the escape remain in prison along with one prisoner injured during his recapture.

Commander Norman Burton, aged 60, and his wife Daphne, bought their Trader Trawler 39 from the Tarquin Yacht Company Ltd in 1980. They intended to charter the boat in the south of France and use the proceeds to build a villa in Spain.

The award was made up of £33,241 for the loss on the boat, now laid up at Puerto José Banus, near Marbella, Spain, £39,357.50 loss of income from chartering, £14,596.99 for wasted expenditure and interest.

The Tarquin Yacht Company Ltd was not represented at the hearing. In fact, since the Burtons began their legal battle the name of the Hampshire-based company has changed to the Tarquin Boat Company Ltd, though its motif and managing director, Mr Tony Chappell, remain the same.

As the hunt was stepped up, traffic was unable to move for more than five miles without coming across a road block where vehicles were searched and drivers were asked for identification.

As Sir James visited the prison Mr Paisley said there had been 12 serious lapses of security, including the smuggling of five handguns and two replicas into the complex. He alleged they had got through at least seven gates within the complex without the alarm being raised and that some doors could have been opened only from the inside.

He also claimed that the outside gate was open and the Army was either not at the perimeter fence or did not react quickly enough and the back-up facilities were slow in arriving. The Northern Ireland Office denied the gate was open.

Father flees after release

Mr Patrick Gilmour, father of a Provisional IRA "supergrass", was forced to go into hiding yesterday only hours after being freed from captivity when a mob besieged his home in the Creggan estate in Londonderry.

Mr Gilmour returned home after 10 months in IRA captivity.

Leading article, page 13

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 25; Belgium B fr 50; Canada \$10; Chile Pts 100; Denmark Kr 100; France Frs 7,000; Germany DM 3,000; Greece Dr 1,200; Luxembourg L 1,200; Republic of Italy L 2,200; Norway Kr 7,000; Portugal Pts 12; Portugal Din 1,000; Switzerland Sfr 3,000; Sweden Kr 1,000; UK £100; USA \$100; Yugoslavia Dm 100

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Life sentence by court martial

Triple-killing soldier convicted

An Irish Army private was sentenced to penal servitude for life yesterday for shooting dead three of his colleagues in the United Nations peacekeeping force in the Lebanon last October. His lawyer said he would appeal.

Michael McAlvey, aged 22, a bachelor from the Falls Road, Belfast, was found guilty at the end of a 36-day court-martial at The Curragh, co Kildare.

He had denied murdering Corporal Gregory Morrow, 20, and Private Peter Burke, both aged 20, and Private Thomas Murphy, aged 19, all from Dublin, while on vehicle checkpoint duty at Tibbin Bridge.

McAlvey, lived with his father and two sisters, and although opposed to British rule in Northern Ireland, Irish culture or music held no appeal for him. Apart from art and rock'n'roll, Nazism was his only interest.

At St Thomas's Secondary School, McAlvey struggled and failed to get a place at the Ulster Polytechnic for a four-year art course. A school friend said "He had ripped from his history book a rather crude anti-Jewish cartoon published in Germany during the war, and stuck it on to the wall. He also had pictures of German stormtroopers."

McAlvey was reprimanded several times by his teachers for trying to form neo-Nazi groups. At one time six boys walked through the school gates wearing swastika armbands. A former teacher said: "McAlvey was a troublemaker."

After leaving school he became a clerical assistant in the Falls Road labour exchange. But he disliked the drudgery of an office job and in 1979 he left to join the Irish Army.

Junior housemen criticized by GPs after death of 6 patients

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

General practitioners who send patients to the Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, where six people have died during the past year shortly after being refused admission or discharged, have claimed that junior housemen appear to be challenging their assessments.

The family doctors want a meeting with senior consultants at the hospital to draw up an agreed medical admissions procedure.

Mid Glamorgan Health Authority has already announced an inquiry into practices at the hospital, where there is often a shortage of medical beds because of the area's high illness rate.

In spite of the authority's claim that the record of the hospital's casualty department is as good as that of any other, Mr Edward Rowlands, Labour MP for Merthyr and Rhymney, has said that there is a "clear and growing concern" over some of the cases it handles.

It emerged yesterday that Mrs Janice James, aged 43, died a few hours after holding a small party to celebrate her discharge from the hospital. She died of heart disease which, her doctors point out, is not uncommon even in apparently fit people.

One GP, Dr Anil Srivastava, made a formal complaint to the hospital, after learning that a woman patient, aged 53, had died of a heart complaint at her home although he had asked for her to be admitted.

He said yesterday: "This problem does not occur with surgical cases, who are admitted straight away into the wards. But in medical cases it appears that often junior doctors of limited experience challenge the judgment of experienced family doctors."

Spurned mistress describes killing

A woman sobbed yesterday as she described to a murder trial jury at the Central Criminal Court how she killed her aging millionaire lover with a champagne bottle after he taunted her about her sexuality and said he was rejecting her for a younger mistress.

Mrs Pamela Meggison, aged 61, is accused of murdering Mr Alec Hubbers, aged 79, a furniture company director, with whom she lives at his home in The Bishops Avenue, Hampstead, London.

She discovered that Mr Hubbers had a new, younger mistress, Madame Nicole Arnaud, from Monaco, and had arranged to sell Madame Arnaud his flat at Cap Ferrat in the South of France. Last October, Mr Hubbers took Mrs Meggison back to Cap Ferrat where he told her that he was in love with Madame Arnaud. "He

said he wanted her to take my place, and wanted to get rid of me."

"He said I wasn't as good in bed as she was. It was all horrible. She was beautiful and lovely to him, and I wasn't, any more."

Despite his taunts they went to bed together at the flat on October 14 and began "to get more friendly", and indulge in sex.

"But then, he started pushing me away, and hitting me. He turned on his side and said 'he didn't want to be bothered with me again'. I picked up a champagne bottle from the drinks bar by the bed and I hit him over the head. I went mad, and I was crazy. I lost all self control."

"I realized he must be dead after I stopped trembling. I was so frantic and frenzied that I can't remember a thing."

The trial continues.

Boys' invention solves problem for blind

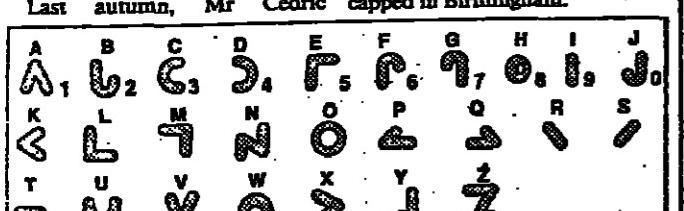
By Kenneth Gosling

A new machine to help the blind and partially sighted to read and write has been invented by three pupils at Sevenoaks School in Kent, using a system of symbols devised in 1847. It could be in production next year and the three young inventors hope it will cost no more than an ordinary typewriter.

Yesterday Chris Berry, aged 16, and Neil Darracott, and Jon Harlow both 17, were in London to receive a £500 award for having solved a problem that had defeated their elders for well over a century: how to adapt Dr William Moon's system of embossed writing, using an alphabet of only nine characters, so that virtually anyone, blind or sighted, can write it.

The prototype, which is smaller than a portable typewriter, will now undergo three months' field trials at the Centre for the Education of the Visually Handicapped in Birmingham.

Last autumn, Mr Cedric

The Moon alphabet - nine symbols in different orientations representing the letters and numbers.

Fugitive's bail backers lose £90,000

Businessmen give B-Cal top airline award

By Michael Ball, Transport Editor

Four people were ordered yesterday to forfeit a total of £90,000 in bail they put up for an American, facing pornography smuggling charges, who fled from London to New York last month.

The Recorder of London, Sir James Miskin, QC, sitting at the Central Criminal Court, said he would not order the four sureties to forfeit all the £150,000 they had put up, because they had not been negligent. The American, Scott Dorman, aged 33, described as a book distributor, had behaved abominably, he said.

Mr Dorman's fiancée, Rosemary Unsworth, a *Times* Business News journalist, is to forfeit £15,000, as is Andrew Eagle, a television producer. Miss Unsworth's father, a dentist, and Victoria Morris, an advertising agent, must each pay £30,000.

Portraits of the artists making monumental decisions



Members of the Society of Portrait Sculptors making their selections for an exhibition in the Mall Gallery, London, which will run from October 17 to 22. Right: One of the judges, Miss Freda Skinner, deliberating. (Photographs: John Voos.)

Teenagers 'embarrassed by trendy parents'

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Cambridge

Parents and teachers should be firm with adolescents and not attempt to copy their dress or behaviour, Dr Marty Gay, a consultant psychiatrist from Bristol, told the Headmasters' Conference yesterday.

Addressing its annual meeting in Cambridge, he said he was worried by parents and other adults who tried to blur the gap between children and adults.

In some schools you cannot see the difference between teachers and taught in dress, behaviour or anything else," he said.

"I am sure there are adolescents who are very embarrassed fre-

quently by the behaviour of their parents. It is necessary to have a generation boundary between adolescents and adults."

Dr Gay, who works at the Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children, had five pieces of advice for adults in dealing with adolescents:

They must be firm; they must be consistent; they must be able to communicate with young people yet remain distanced from them; they must be sensitive to the aggressive feelings in themselves which adolescents bring out; and they should provide a stimulating environment in which

pupils instead of referring them to a psychiatrist, he said. They might then end up at a secure unit such as Kingswood in Bristol, after murdering or raping someone.

The irony was that the fathers of such pathological individuals were often pathological themselves but were regarded as successful, he said.

"In society we see relatively pathological individuals as heads of large companies. They provide the children that you look after. We see them in society as acceptable. That sort of behaviour is seen as success", Dr Gay said.

Store sued for arrest

From Our Correspondent, York

Miss Doris White, aged 72, Christmas shopping in December, 1981, she was followed by a store manager who had told her that a customer saw her taking a card from the display and putting it in her shopping bag.

The police later discovered she had not bought or stolen anything from the store in Davygate, York.

The manager caught up with her in the office of a local newspaper. She told the jury that the man snatched her shopping bag.

Miss White was taken back to the store and made to sit in a cubicle in full view of shoppers for 20 minutes. The hearing continues today.

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Lebanon's fragile ceasefire

From Robert Pisk, Beirut

Elected by what it regards as the humiliation of President Amin Gemayel's American-supported government in Beirut, the Syrians are making no secret of their determination to work for the final destruction of the unofficial "peace" agreement between Israel and Lebanon.

Government-controlled news papers in Damascus are also referring to the Druze militia in Lebanon who have been fighting the Lebanese army as "patriotic forces" who have upset American plans for the region.

The papers have at the same time been publicizing Mr Denis Healey's suggestion that Britain should dissociate itself from the peacekeeping force in Lebanon if the US becomes further involved in the conflict.

The Syrians are portraying themselves as the architects of the two-day-old ceasefire in Lebanon which have been fighting the Druze militia in the mountains above Beirut were being supplied with artillery weapons; I saw 12 large Grad missile launchers

disappeared now that pro-Syrian Lebanese politicians are to be included in the conference for national reconciliation in Lebanon.

The significance of this is clear: once Mr Gemayel's government represents pro-Syrian as well as pro-Hizbullah views, the Syrians have no objection to his remaining president.

"The opposition leaders of the National Salvation Front have achieved a victory," a Syrian told *The Times* yesterday. "The majority in Lebanon have therefore won. This is a victory."

Nor do the authorities in Damascus have any intention of permitting the fruits of this victory to be lost if the ceasefire in Lebanon breaks down.

Scarcely 12 hours before the Lebanese Army claimed that Druze militia in the mountains above Beirut were being supplied with artillery weapons, I saw 12 large Grad missile launchers

being taken on Syrian army lorries through the central Lebanese town of Zahlé on the road to Tripoli and the coast mountains.

The Syrians are not apathetic in their political planning, and Western embassies in Damascus believe Syria's attempts to crush the last independent Palestinian guerrilla movement in Lebanon loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, should be seen in the light of the two-day-old ceasefire.

Heavy fighting was going on around the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli yesterday between pro- and anti-Arab factions of the PLO while Syria troops ordered the remaining Arab loyalists out of Beaufort, and Hama.

Dozens of Palestinian fighters of Colonel Amin Muhammed's PLO forces now control checkpoints on the mountain ridges east of Beirut, effectively commanding the Arab

men to the Tripoli area.

With almost all the Palestinian forces in Lebanon now under their control, the Syrians can apply further pressure on Mr Gemayel during the proposed reconciliation talks. If the Lebanese President wants the ELO to withdraw its men from Lebanon, then a price will have to be paid for this.

That price is not difficult to discover in Damascus. "Syria", the English-language *Syria Times* claimed yesterday, "will not give up her main goal to foil the Israeli-Lebanese accord since this accord is at the root of the current crisis in Lebanon. Syria... will not bargin or make concessions, regardless of American sabre-rattling and military threats".

Curious, the Syrian Foreign Ministry has expressed more anger at France's air strikes against Syrian artillery positions in Lebanon last week than at the US naval bombardment there.



Playtime: Two United States Marines enjoying a break from the fighting with a game of Monopoly as the ceasefire holds

Warders cleared of murder

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Eight South African prison warders were yesterday cleared of the murder of three of their black prisoners last December, but six of them, four whites and two blacks, were found guilty on various charges of assault.

The eight men were accused of beating three convicts to death and seriously assaulting 34 others at the Bartonspruit prison farm in the Eastern Transvaal on December 23, which Mr Justice Dick Vernon said, in his summing-up, was "An evil day".

During the six-week trial, the state council submitted evidence that the accused had repeatedly and savagely beaten their charges with heavy rubber truncheons while they were pushing wheelbarrows laden with gravel in a heat of 95°F.

In his opening remarks, the judge said that "for two hours the work site at the prison farm (on the farm) became a battlefield, leaving three corpses and a large number of injured convicts". The party of 44 convicts put to work at the dam on that day had been sent on "nothing more than a punishment expedition".

Opposition lawyers, however, claimed that the Socialist

Athens keeps ban on Beirut forces

From Maria Modiano, Athens

Greece hailed the Lebanon ceasefire yesterday but adhered to its decision to bar the use of Greek facilities for the transfer of troops or military equipment to that country.

After denying the United States clearance for 40 flights of Air Force transports carrying supplies for the United States peace force by way of Crete, the Greek Government said it had turned back on Monday a Beirut-bound supply ship of the US Sixth Fleet which sought permission to take ammunition from the American base stores at Suda Bay in Crete.

Italian soundings for permission to use Greek airports to airlift supplies for the Italian force in Lebanon also elicited a negative response from the Greeks who insisted that the ban, designed to keep Greece out of the Lebanon conflict, was applicable to all countries.

Opposition lawyers, however, claimed that the Socialist

SAfricans can survive oil boycott

George, South Africa (Reuters) - South Africa could withstand and survive a total boycott on oil supplies, according to Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister.

Listing his Government's achievements to a congress of the Cape National Party, Mr Botha said: "Monday night that South Africa had assumed its energy responsibilities, extended that at least we have a total boycott. We have done it."

South Africa has pioneered the production of oil from coal at its Sasol plants and has a sizable proportion of its oil needs from this source, according to oil experts.

The Republic is also known to be able to buy oil on the world market despite an embargo by nearly all the exporting countries over its policy of apartheid.

Blanco leader lasts in jail

Montevideo (Reuters) - Senior

Plácido Fernández Menéndez, a leading Uruguayan politician, arrested and held incommunicado in connection with a day of protest against the military Government, has gone on hunger strike, according to his relatives.

A leader of the Blanco Party, he began his fast when he was arrested on Friday while carrying out an advertising Sunday's national day of protest against the military regime.

The Broederbond was founded in Johannesburg in 1918 as a cultural organization by a handful of Afrikaners who feared that the identity of the Voëlk was threatened by British cultural and economic dominance. The Anglo-Boer war still a fresh memory and many Afrikaners were dispirited and confused.

It became progressively more political and nationalist and adopted a code of secrecy in the 1920s. Its confidentiality was badly shaken in the 1970s when the organization was the target of a number of exposés in the English-language press based on documents leaked by disenchanted members. It is still considered bad form, however, to ask an Afrikaner if he is a member.

Membership is by invitation and is open only to male Afrikaners of the Dutch Reformed Church faith.

Afrikaners are those who speak Afrikaans, a form of Dutch, as their mother tongue. They constitute about 60 per cent of the white population.

Yet, while part of its raison d'être was removed in 1948, the Broederbond continued to serve successive National Party prime ministers as a most valuable propaganda instrument. The question is whether, in its present state of disarray, it can go on performing this function as effectively.

Although Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, seems to have won the allegiance of the organization's leadership for his modest constitutional reforms which would permit a very limited sharing of power with mixed-blood Coloureds and Indians (but not with black Africans), there is clear evidence of wide dissatisfaction among its members.

Many Broederbond members, like their ousted chairman, undoubtedly support the breakaway extreme-right-wing Conservative Party of Dr Andries Treurnicht, which is adamantly opposed to the reforms. Dr

The recent turmoil in the Afrikaner Broederbond and the forced resignation of its chairman, Professor Carl Boshoff, has thrust this curious, perhaps unique, and secretive organization into the limelight, which it normally strives to shun.

Opinions vary about the importance of the Broederbond (Afrikaner for "brotherhood" or "league of brothers"), some holding that it has been a fading force ever since the Afrikaners secured political control of South Africa through the victory of Dr D. F. Malan's National Party (NP) in 1948.

The Brotherhood's heyday was probably in the 1930s and 1940s when it played a crucial role in shaping and uniting the forces of Afrikaner nationalism at a time of often deep and bitter divisions, for example over South Africa's participation in the Second World War. Many Afrikaners openly sympathized with Hitler's Germany.

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treurnicht, a former Cabinet minister and Dutch Reformed Church preacher is also an ex-chairman of the Broederbond.

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Doors firmly closed on arms deal



The empty seat: An angry Soviet UN delegation leaves the seat intended for Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, unoccupied.

Russia condemns Reagan's 'blatant lies'

From Richard Owen
Moscow

Mr Andrei Gromyko may not have been in the United Nations General Assembly to hear President Reagan urge Russia to "walk through the door" to an arms agreement on Monday, but Tass yesterday indicated the way in which the Soviet Foreign Minister would have declined the invitation.

It said the fact that the door was closed was the fault of the United States, and Mr Reagan had made a speech full of "gross distortions, demagoguery, misinformation and blatant lies".

Tass also attacked Mrs Margaret Thatcher, accusing her of pathological anti-communism and saying she had put the blame for the Geneva impasse "at the wrong door".

All in all, there was a lot of talk about doors in Moscow yesterday and very little hope that they might open on to a bright future

of arms agreements and East-West concord.

Tass said Mr Reagan had tried "to prove what cannot be proved, that his Administration's policy of whipping up tension and creating preparations for war meets the lofty aims and principles of the United Nations Charter".

It said the American President had regretted the rise in tensions in regional "arenas of confrontation between the great powers", when in fact it was Washington itself which had "stoked the fires" of conflict from Lebanon to El Salvador.

Referring to Mr Reagan's thesis that some non-aligned nations were in fact client states of the Soviet Union, Tass said it had clearly annoyed America that non-aligned states were pursuing policies not to Washington's taste.

President Andropov's contribution was an oblique one, as has been his style lately, and took the form of a message to the Afro-Asian Writers Association confer-

missiles, which have already been dismissed by the Kremlin as nothing new. It said the President had used his address to slander the Soviet Union by trying to blame Moscow for "the provocation involving a South Korean plane". His speech was an attempt to camouflage the "aggressive imperialist essence" of American foreign policy.

Mr Gromyko, who should have attended the General Assembly session but withdrew when restrictions were placed on his Aeroflot flight to New York, spent the day receiving Mr Bohuslav Chmoupek, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister. Soviet television showed shots of Mr Gromyko trying - not very successfully - to look as if he would rather be talking to Mr Chmoupek than taking centre stage at the United Nations.

President Andropov's contribution was an oblique one, as has been his style lately, and took the form of a message to the Afro-Asian Writers Association confer-

ence in Tashkent. He said the world situation was "extremely complicated and difficult" due to imperialism's preparations for war and the United States' "big stick" policy in Asia, Africa and Latin America. "There is now no greater task than the curbing of this senseless arms race," he said.

In an attack on Mrs Thatcher's television interview, Tass said the Prime Minister was so blinded by anti-communism that she could not see it was Nato and not Russia which had launched the arms race. She had repeated "hackedeyed" reasons for not including the British and French deterrents in the talks, and had been unable to refrain from the Pershing's short flying time and target accuracy.

As for the suggestion that bombers should be counted as well as missile warheads, the Soviet Union does not agree with the United States over which nuclear-capable aircraft should be included.

Diplomats said that Mr Reagan's concessions on the arms

talks fell "long way short of Moscow's position. Mr Reagan said that if Russia agreed to missile reduction on a global basis, and included Soviet rockets in Asia, the United States would not necessarily match all Soviet missiles stationed in Europe. But Moscow has refused consistently to include its Asian missiles in the talks, and demands that no new missiles at all should be deployed by Nato in Europe.

Mr Reagan's point that Pershing 2 missiles would be reduced as part of an agreement, as well as the slower cruise missile, is some comfort to Moscow, but not enough to allay Soviet fears of transforming the South Atlantic into a new "arena of conflict" between East and West.

He also accused Britain of threatening all attempts at peace-making, including its refusal to accept the mediation of the Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, to renew negotiations between the two sides. Argentina is expected with its Latin allies to table a motion calling for the resumption of negotiations when the assembly debates the issue later this month.

There is little doubt that Argentina will win a resounding victory in the assembly for its stand, but it was clear from Señor Aguirre's remarks that European support is the most vital. Last year a majority of the European Community abstained in the vote on negotiations while the United States voted with Argentina.

In a right of reply, Mr Nicholas Barrington, Britain's representative, said that the many and varied accusations made by Argentina were without foundation. He said that Argentina had attempted to airbrush out the fact that it had broken off from the negotiating process with the deliberate and unprovoked invasion of the islands last year.

Señor Aguirre discounted Britain's contention that Argentina's failure to declare a formal end of hostilities was the source of continued tension. He said his country's attitude was in full conformity with the provisions of the UN Charter relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

He noted that the fourteen and a half months that had elapsed since the cessation of fighting was confirmation of Argentina's good will and its compliance with international law.

The only white candidate, Mr Philip Leakey, was reported to

Leading article, page 13.

Americans deny finding Korean jet black box

Tokyo (AP) - US naval vessels have located the flight data and voice recorders from the downed South Korean airliner, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) said yesterday. American officials immediately denied it.

The NHK report, quoting government sources, came after a statement by the chief government spokesman and activity in northern Japan that set off a wave

Policeman dies in Sind pre-poll riot

Islamabad (Reuter) - Tension mounted in Sind Province yesterday as three people died, a bomb exploded and police rounded up opposition leaders before tomorrow's controversial local elections, opposition sources said.

The sources said that three died and 13 were injured when a crowd of opposition supporters exchanged gunfire with police who were trying to inspect a polling station at Khanpur, northern Sind.

Police sources confirmed that

one policeman was killed while visiting the station. The opposition has called for a boycott of the polls because political parties are banned from contesting them.

A bomb rocked a government building in Shikarpur, seven miles from Khanpur, the sources added. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), which has kept up antigovernment unrest in central Sind since August 14, said that the

military government has rounded up more than 350 people to keep them from disrupting the elections.

Police searched more than 50 houses on Monday night in the provincial capital of Karachi, the MRD acting secretary general, Mr Iqbal Haider reported.

He said that there could be many more arrests in central Sind, where violent protests have resulted in the polls being delayed for three days in the worst-hit districts.

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD VEHICLE?

- If it has been off the road for some years you may need to take action before 30 November 1983.
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After this date the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre cannot accept applications to record old vehicles under their original registration numbers. This means that you will lose the use of your number unless you act now.

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Make of Vehicle _____

Name _____

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Postcode _____

9/83

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

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WHAT IF YOU DON'T WRITE TO DVLC BEFORE 30 NOVEMBER?

You will lose your present registration number. You will still be able to record your vehicle at the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre but you will be given a different number.

Please tick relevant boxes

Do you wish these documents to be returned? YES/NO

I also enclose:

Old-style "Log Book"

Old Licence Disc

Old MOT Certificate

Postcode _____

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

Falklands lobby launched by junta

From Zoria Pyarivsky
New York

Argentina is urging Britain's allies to persuade it to discontinue its "Fortress Falklands" policy, and has initiated its campaign in the UN General Assembly this year to attain coveted European support for negotiations over the sovereignty of the islands.

Señor Juan Aguirre Lazar, the Argentine Foreign Minister, said on Monday that the West should disassociate itself from Britain's "dangerous adventurism". He cited a decision by Britain to establish what he called a strategic airbase in the Falklands as an escalation of its military expansionist policy in the South Atlantic.

It was clear, he said, that the base would be designed to allow Britain to extend its global strategic interests, and he gave warning of the dangers of transforming the South Atlantic into a new "arena of conflict" between East and West.

He also accused Britain of threatening all attempts at peace-making, including its refusal to accept the mediation of the Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, to renew negotiations between the two sides.

As for the suggestion that bombers should be counted as well as missile warheads, the Soviet Union does not agree with the United States over which nuclear-capable aircraft should be included.

In an attack on Mrs Thatcher's

Terror in Corsica

French crack down on nationalists

From Diana Geddes, Paris

"suitcase (full of money)," he asked.

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, has also denounced the front's attempts to whip up public opinion against a government minister.

The federation has organized several demonstrations on the island in support of the front's claims, and last Friday, Mme Pascale Verdier, editor of the nationalist newspaper *U Riom*, was charged with "spreading false information" about Government involvement in M. Orsoni's disappearance.

A week earlier, M. Jean-Louis Eyssard, head of the local radio station, Radio Corse, was also charged with spreading false



M. Franceschi: Accused by Corsican terrorists.

information after he had broadcast a report of a press conference last spring at which the nationalists claimed that two of their militants had been tortured by the police.

A spokesman for the Federation of Nationalist Councils denied that the Government had proof of "any organic relation" between it and "some clandestine movement".

Heavy turnover of MPs in Kenya election

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

First results in Kenya's general election yesterday showed the expected heavy turnover of former MPs, with several ministers and assistant ministers losing their seats.

In many areas the poll was small - sometimes less than 25 per cent of the electorate - indicating that a high proportion of the 7.2 million registered voters either stayed at home or were barred from voting because of mistakes in the electoral rolls.

The only white candidate, Mr Philip Leakey, was reported to

Hongkong finance official hurries home from IMF

From Richard Hughes, Hongkong

As Hongkong's Financial Secretary, Sir John Brambridge, hurried back five days early from the IMF-World Bank conference in Washington, the Hongkong dollar welcomed him with a substantial recovery.

In confident mood, Sir John said that his presence in Hongkong "could be more important than sipping cocktails" in Washington.

He emphasized that the withholding tax on Hongkong dollar deposits would not be abolished and gave warning that those people selling Hongkong dollars at this juncture are going to get their fingers badly burnt.

Meanwhile, Hongkong's Consumer Council has urged shoppers to stop panic buying, which would only aggravate inflation.

The Consumer Council has received complaints of increases of up to 50 per cent in sale prices for many market commodities. Australian rice - the most widely consumed in Hongkong - has been virtually sold out.

The Government has also had to wind down three lots of Crown land from sale by public auction because not a single buyer was interested in the normal opening price.

On the political front, Mr John Walden, former Director of Home Affairs, blamed both the British and Chinese Governments for the collapse of the Hongkong dollar.

He said that the British and Chinese were treating Hongkong's five million people as "mute pawns" and did not care what damage they did to local living standards.

"There is increasing certainty that colonial authoritarian

East Berlin concession to children

Berlin (AP) - East Germany announced yesterday it has dropped currency exchange requirements for children visiting from the West and has eased rules on family reunification.

The West German Government called the East Berlin action inadequate. This summer Bonn approved a DM1bn loan to East Germany to encourage easing of restrictions.

West Germany has repeatedly demanded abolition of the currency exchange law, saying it discourages Westerners from visiting East Germany. Visits have fallen sharply since East Berlin in 1980 doubled to DM25 the daily amount of Western currency that adult visitors must exchange. Children, aged between six and 14, had to exchange DM7.5 a day.

Aquino panel to resume

Manila (AFP) - The presidential panel investigating the assassination of Benigno Aquino, the murdered Philippine opposition leader, decided at a closed meeting to resume hearings on October 10, with or without a Supreme Court ruling on an opposition challenge to its legality.

The commission will invite Filipino or foreigners who claimed to have witnessed Mr Aquino's killing at Manila's airport on August 21 to testify before the commission, whose five members were appointed by President Marcos.

Queen's debut

Mbabane (Reuter) - The new Swazi Queen Regent Ntombi has received envoys from Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia in her first public engagement since her disputed appointment last month.

Korean scandal

Seoul (Reuter) - Prosecutors said they were questioning several officials of a South Korean bank in connexion with a £100m swindle. The Cheongju Bank said it had dismissed 11 of its officials.

Matterhorn toll

Zermatt (Reuter) - The number of people killed this year while climbing Switzerland's most famous peak, the Matterhorn, rose to a record 18 yesterday. A 36-year-old American was the latest victim.

Viper brood

Madrid (AFP) - A horned garter viper has given birth to 70 offspring at the zoo here, about double the normal number for the species. Weighing in at little more than 2 oz each the snake brood was reported to be doing well.

Video sinks to new depths

Keen though we are to find more oil beneath the waves, we don't much enjoy plunging beneath them ourselves. Particularly in the North Sea, which is most unfriendly.

Frankly, we'd rather watch video.

And there's a British company called UDI (part of the John Brown Group) which is helping us do just that. Indeed, the help's been mutual. UDI technology owes much to Shell's encouragement.

Their sonar equipment builds a picture of the sea-bed by bouncing sound-waves off it; and then the cunning fellows convert the sounds into video numbers.

So you can see what the bottom of the sea sounds like. Mind blowing.

And who, apart from oilmen, would want to use such equipment?

You'd be surprised.

There's West Midlands County Council, for one. They've used UDI Sonar to delve into old, flooded underground limestone workings.

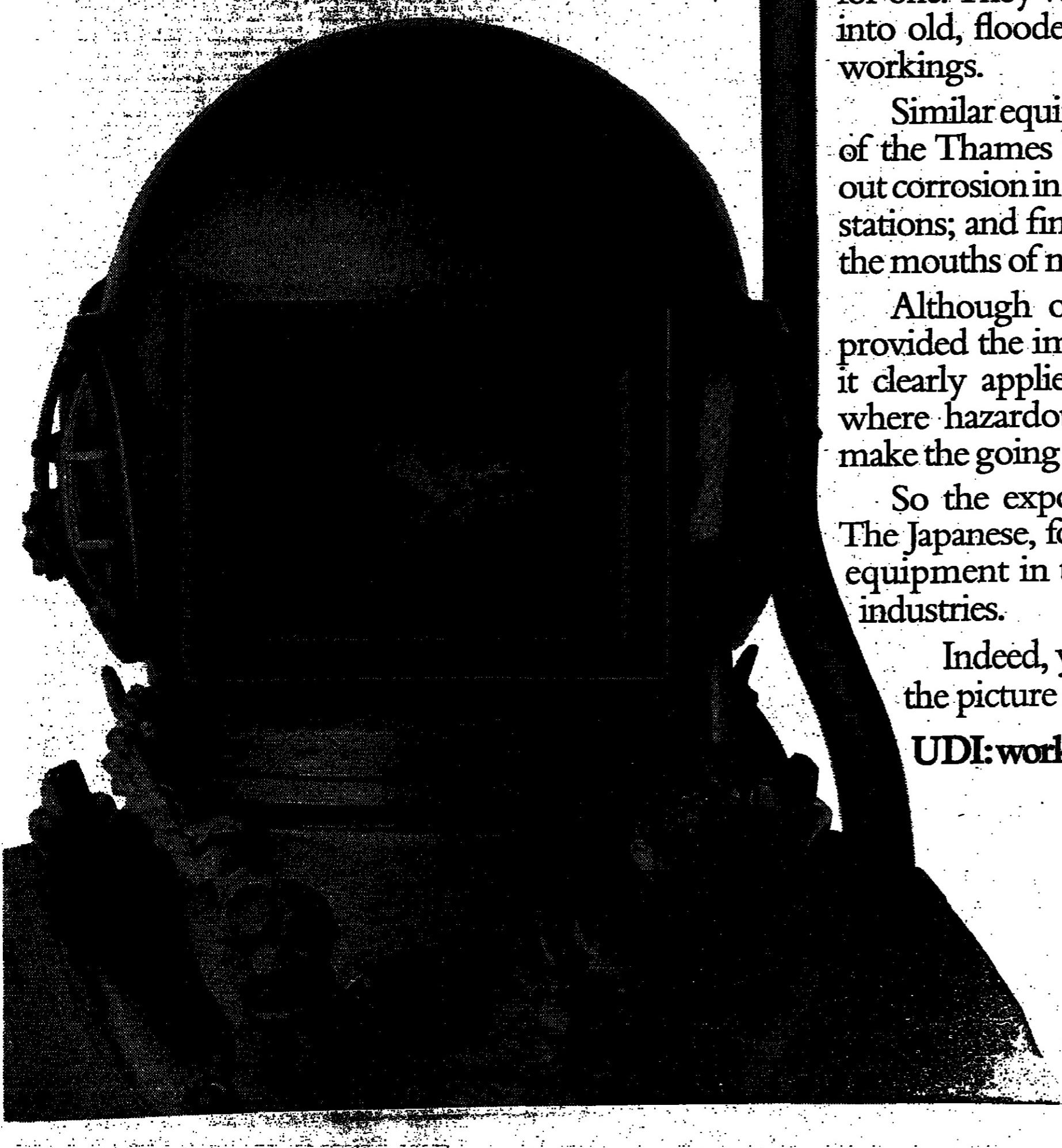
Similar equipment is helping surveyors of the Thames flood-barrier; and seeking out corrosion in the water-coolers of power stations; and finding underwater debris in the mouths of major ports.

Although our North Sea operations provided the impetus for this technology, it clearly applies anywhere in the world where hazardous underwater conditions make the going tough.

So the export orders are coming in. The Japanese, for instance, are using UDI equipment in their offshore oil and gas industries.

Indeed, you could say that for UDI the picture sounds rather rosy.

UDI: working well with Shell



ADVERTISEMENT

The Nuclear Weapons "Freeze" Advertising Campaign

- The claim is made that nuclear "deterrence" has preserved peace for more than 30 years. But the process of providing weapons to maintain deterrence - the nuclear arms race - has resulted in stockpiled weaponry equal to a million Hiroshima bombs.
- It is at least equally plausible to suggest that peace has been preserved in spite of deterrence and the nuclear arms race.
- The nuclear arsenals cannot be used for any rational purpose. Their use would be catastrophic and suicidal. Yet "deterrence" is based upon the assumption that in some circumstances they will be used.
- Opponents of nuclear-weapons "freeze" assert that it would perpetuate Soviet superiority. But the Soviets do not have nuclear superiority. They have more megatonnage; the West has more warheads and more accurate missiles. But at the levels of nuclear "overkill" that have existed for many years, "superiority" is strategically meaningless.
- A freeze should not perpetuate present levels of weaponry: it should be a preliminary to drastic reductions.
- While the purpose of nuclear deterrence is to prevent intentional war, the weapons it requires create the risk of catastrophe by accident or miscalculation.
- Weapons now proposed appear to be intended to give "first-strike" capability. Whether this is attainable or not, the adversary will fear it. Such weapons are destabilising, and increase the risk of catastrophe. Their development results not from any military necessity but from the momentum of the arms race and the commitment and investment of its institutions. No realistic strategy can accommodate these weapons. Their deployment by either side would be prevented by freezing now.
- The East-West confrontation requires a political solution. The nuclear arms race prevents this.
- Traditional negotiations have failed to stop the nuclear arms race. A "freeze" offers a practical way of stopping the race without loss of security - indeed with improved security for both sides.

"FREEZE" NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOW

"To improve national and international security, the United States and the Soviet Union should stop the nuclear arms race. Specifically, they should adopt a mutual freeze on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and of missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver nuclear weapons. This is an essential, verifiable first step towards lessening the risk of nuclear war and reducing the nuclear arsenals". — From the United States Freeze proposal, the "Call to halt the nuclear arms race"

The proposal for a nuclear-weapons "freeze" has attracted enormous support in the United States; it has been advocated by Soviet leaders past and present; it is endorsed by the United Nations. In 1982, more than 30% of the U.S. electorate had the opportunity to vote on the "freeze" proposal: 60% of the voters endorsed the "freeze".

The "freeze" offers a practical way of stopping the nuclear arms race. It provides a way round the difficulties which obstruct traditional negotiations for limiting or reducing nuclear armaments. It offers an opportunity for the nuclear powers to come to terms with the fact that their interests are best served by preparing, not for mutual annihilation, but for common security.

The nuclear arsenals are vastly out of proportion to any conflict of interest between West and East. Could any such conflict be sufficiently serious to require preparation for mutual annihilation? The need for the power blocs of East and West to co-exist without war is a problem requiring a political solution. The nuclear arms race is an abortive search for a technical solution. It has only two foreseeable endings: either in catastrophe, or by being superseded by a political solution. But it is self-perpetuating, and it works against a political solution. Far from providing any remedy for international problems, it increases them. Demand for political action to end it must come from public opinion.

"Freeze" now

The basis for the nuclear weapons freeze must be the present state of affairs. Neither side should try to make it conditional upon reduction of weapons deployed by the other side, since this must make a freeze as unattainable as agreement in traditional negotiations. Cripps of the freeze assert that it would "confirm Soviet nuclear superiority". In fact, as the US Department of Defense has stated, the US and USSR are "roughly equal in strategic nuclear power" (2); and as Defense Secretary Weinberger has said, the US has "an immense edge in technology" (3). At the levels of "overkill" that have existed for many years,

"nuclear superiority" is meaningless. (British governments have made this point when advocating "deterrence" to the "dependent deterrence" against Soviet forces fifteen times larger.) Opponents also claim that "verification" would be difficult. In fact this would be easier than with partial arms control.

Arms-control negotiations have generally been so protracted that before they have been concluded, a new generation of weapons, to which the negotiations were irrelevant, has been developed. A "freeze" is essential if this is to be prevented.

The Institutions of the Nuclear Arms Race

Lord Zuckerman, a former Chief Scientific Adviser to British Prime Ministers and to the US Department of Defense, has shown how this paradoxical situation has come about. He quotes (6) the warning of President Eisenhower, in 1961, of the "danger that public policy could itself become the captive of a scientific-technological elite", and of the "acquisition of unwanted influence by the military-industrial complex". "The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist" (7).

Lord Zuckerman (6, 8) describes how the nuclear arms race "feeds itself": even though the continued growth of the nuclear arsenals does not increase but decreases security, it continues because the men in the weapons laboratories have succeeded in creating a world with an irrational foundation, on which a new

set of political realities has had to be built". The evolution of nuclear weaponry has not been in the service of coherent defence policies: policies have been shaped by the weapons.

The institutions of the nuclear arms race - concerned with invention, development, manufacture, marketing and deployment of nuclear weapons - have gained dominance over the politicians. Considerations of defence and security are subordinated to those institutions' need for continuity; and in response to that need, and to the climate of fear and suspicion which the nuclear arms race produces, governments adopt policies which are politically and militarily nonsensical.

The demand for a nuclear weapons "freeze" is a demand for the reassertion of proper political control over policy.

Fantasies

As Lord Carver shows (4), in nuclear policy, strategic reasoning has been replaced by pretence and bluff. Bluff may be useful when, if the bluff is called, there is a practicable alternative way out. If the nuclear bluff fails, there is only catastrophe. Inability to admit this - and all that it implies about the futility of the nuclear arms race - leads to fantasising. When this extends to the acceptance by national leaders of such fantasies as "winnable" nuclear war, there is no room for complacency.

The result of the failure of strategic reasoning is disarray at every level. Politically, the Western Alliance, which nuclear policy was supposed to strengthen, is increasingly divided. Materially, there is production of weapons systems that are strategically unnecessary, technically unreliable, even inoperable. Doctrinally, there is chaos, as attempts are made to accommodate new weapons and to incorporate them into the unending vain search for "credibility".

An extreme example of this state of affairs is the MX missile programme: strategically superfluous, because the Soviet first strike capability it is supposed to counter does not exist, its frantic search for a mode of deployment produces increasingly ludicrous proposals.

For the deployment of ground-launched cruise missiles (GLCMs) in western Europe, a number of rationales have been produced. The popular view is that the cruise missiles and Pershing IIs are NATO's response to the USSR's SS-20s. This view is dismissed by the

British Ministry of Defence: while the SS-20s were "not entirely irrelevant", "the essential rationale for the modernisation programme [cruise and Pershing II] is that without a demonstrable NATO capability to strike sub-strategic targets well inside the Soviet Union [on a limited scale and with greater accuracy than possible with submarine-launched ballistic missiles], the Soviet Union might conclude it could risk escalating a conflict to a point where NATO had no credible response to widespread nuclear strikes against European targets, and that such strikes could be launched from an effective sanctuary of Soviet territory. The essence of flexible response is that NATO should possess a spectrum of deterrent options from conventional forces to strategic level; unless the ageing F111s and Vulcans are augmented by the proposed GLCM/Pershing II force, a gap could develop in this range of options." (9).

This fantasising about the doctrine of "flexible response" conceals the fact that the GLCMs is like MX, a missile in search of a role and sales. Lord Zuckerman comments (8) that the proposed deployment of cruise missiles in Europe is an "important current illustration of the way men in the research and development laboratories pre-empt strategic decisions - and therefore add rigidity to political discussion. The political reaction in certain NATO countries to the suggested deployment of these weapons on their territory was clearly not anticipated".

Nuclear weapons policies — the real dispute

The real dispute over nuclear weapons policies is not between "unilateral" and "multilateral" disarmers. It is between those who want more weapons and those who do not.

The claim that additional weapons on one side will lead to negotiated reductions on both sides is contrary to repeated experience that it leads

Problems with "mutual nuclear deterrence"

Claims are frequently made that nuclear deterrence has kept the peace for more than 30 years, that it is a stable system providing an acceptable basis for peace and security, and that it is capable of continuing to do so indefinitely.

Whether the absence of war in Europe and between the Western and Eastern blocs is a consequence of nuclear deterrence is open to argument but not to proof. Clearly the absence of war between the countries of western Europe which were adversaries in 1941-43 and 1939-45 has resulted from such factors as the realisation that common interests outweigh conflicting interests, and, basically, that peace is preferable to war. Such realisations have also contributed to avoidance of war between East and West.

Holocaust by "accident"

Clearly neither of the superpowers has the capability to launch a disarming first strike against the other. To this extent, mutual nuclear deterrence can be argued to be effective in preventing international war. But the weapons created for "deterrence" themselves create the risk of holocaust by accident or misadventure, or by unintended escalation in some international crisis. Elaborate systems are required to prevent this - but neither the human nor the technical elements in such systems can be infallible. While the weapons remain, risks will remain. The aim should be to reduce, and not to increase, the risk.

But new missiles are now planned, for which is claimed such security that they will provide the capability for a pre-emptive first strike against the adversary's missiles, leaving his cities as hostages; he would thereby be prevented from striking back, and be forced to surrender. For technical and operational reasons this proposition is probably fallacious. But if such missiles are deployed, and their owners believe in the preposition, both sides must fear that the opponent may attempt such a strike.

A "freeze" now would prevent the deployment of such destabilising new missiles. It would re-

move the destabilising "dynamic" effects of the nuclear arms race, while preserving such "static" effectiveness as the nuclear arsenals exert, and by which stability may be maintained while new relationships are developed. Such "static" deterrence could be maintained with greatly reduced arsenals.

Paradoxes of nuclear deterrence

Nuclear deterrence is full of paradoxes. It requires both sides, supposedly in order to prevent mutual destruction, to prepare to produce the holocaust. Deterrence is based on the assumption that in some circumstances the deterrent weapons will be used. For deterrence to be assumed to work, it must be assumed that the adversary can be relied upon to act rationally - to be rationally, if perhaps reluctantly, deterred by the threat. But, as Field Marshal Lord Carver, a former Chief of the British Defence Staff, has noted, in nuclear terms "to pose an unacceptable risk to the enemy automatically poses the same risk to oneself". (4) The threat to a nuclear-armed adversary is essentially suicidal and irrational. How much confidence can there be that at a time of crisis an adversary faced with an irrational threat will act rationally? (This problem is illustrated by the NATO policy of readiness to make first use of nuclear weapons. The message of a nuclear "warning shot" must be that "We are ready to act on the holocaust, so we hope you are not as mad as we are").

In military theory, military action should serve a political purpose. Nuclear conflict between West and East could serve no political purpose, since there could be no winner. Professor Lawrence Freedman (5) argues that deterrence is a "moralised form of war" and security is the antithesis of strategy: its supposed effectiveness depends not upon any controllable use, but upon the dangers of its uncontrollability. The strategy cannot sensibly be backed up by the use of the weaponry upon which it is based, since such use could not lead to success, but only to catastrophe.

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SPECTRUM

Hot on the heels of the Whimsical Fifties and the Swinging Sixties came the baying, destructive anarchy of punk. In his concluding article on postwar style, Bevis Hillier looks back at the growth of young disenchantment in the Cynical Seventies - and sees within its conspicuous acts of violent bad taste the seeds of hope

Will they cry for Johnny Rotten?

By the end of the 1970s, nostalgia was catching up with its own tail. Events were being recycled as nostalgia almost as soon as they happened. In January 1980, the enterprising Preston Polytechnic Library held a show called The Seventies. The catalogue began with an alphabetical list of people and things the organizers associated with the decade. They included Adidas bags, Princess Anne, Amin, boat people, Ray City Rollers, colour television, digital watches, fast food, gay lib, high-tech, hang-gliding, Patty Hearst, jogging, Muppets, platform shoes, Angela Rippon, Johnny Rotten, skateboards, streakers, skinheads, Watergate and women's lib.

Decades come in pairs: the hard-faced political 1930s succeeded the frothy, escapist '20s; the good-time whimsical '50s clambered back to affluence after the austere '40s. The 1970s, too, had a character contrapuntal to that of the '60s. If the 1960s were swinging, optimistic, full of innovation, the '70s brought disenchantment, stagnation, a negative feeling, finally the baying, destructive, anarchy of

If one is looking for an alternative sobriquet for the 1970s, "the cynical '70s" probably comes closest to the truth. The drop-outs were running out of cash. The Beatles were disillusioned with their sly-old Maharishi. The drug culture may have expanded some minds but it had also reduced some lifespans, including those of the pop idols Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Brian Jones. The silver sheen had worn off the Chelsea Drug Store, and it was hideously repainted. The editor of *OZ* was arrested. Lenny Bruce committed suicide. Andy Warhol was shot. The establishment was twitching the reins of society again and calling its strays to heel.

David Frost, a leader of 1960s satirists, had become a poachy interviewer. The ex-satirist exchanged sycophantic chat with the ex-Shah of Iran and with ex-President Nixon. Jane Fonda began accepting her Oscars again. Dudley Moore, another '60s satirist, was assumed into Hollywood.

Adapted from *The Style of the Century 1900-1980* by Bevis Hillier, published on October 20 by the Herbert Press, price £12.50.



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I would like to test drive the exciting new Alfa 33 for 24 hours. I am over 21 years of age, have a car under 4 years old and a current driving licence. I am definitely not in the market for an ordinary boring five seater hatchback.

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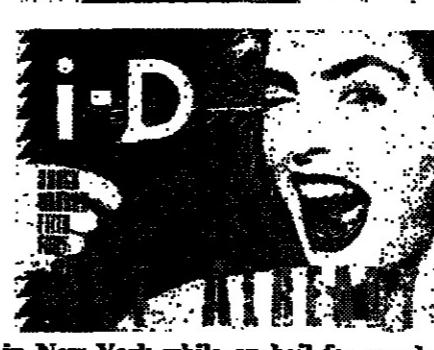
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Alfa Romeo

The Alfa 33 range from £5,690, excluding delivery & number plates.



Top: the cover of the first LP by the rock group Roxy Music flattered a return to glamour and fantasy, its lascivious image shot through with an irony soon to become all-pervasive.



Left: his death in New York while on bail for murder made Sid Vicious into a punk icon. Above right: the magazine i-D represents punk at its most sophisticated.

urinating cupids who performed when you warmed a glass bulb.

It is possible that the new popularity of *kitsch* represented boredom with the po-faced worthiness of modern movement design which had managed to survive all the novelties and freaks of the 1960s onwards. An anti-urban movement... Vernacular idyll was a style which made a great impact on progressives of this period, in their solar-heated houses... Bread crocks by Richard Batterham, a rag rug by John Hinckiffe, a bowl by Richard Raffan, a box by Lucy Goffin."

But other progressives were more attracted by high-tech - the use of industrial furniture in the home, such as metal factory shelves and tubular steel bunk beds (Habitat offered one), of which the architectural equivalent was the Pompidou Centre in Paris, whose "mechanical" innards seemed to have been grafted on to its outside. High-tech belonged to the same ethos as Concorde, the high-speed train, micro-chips, television, video games and shiny plastic clothes.

But something else entered 1970s design which was neither rural nor high-tech, but a calculated insult to both: *kitsch*, deliberate bad taste. Gido Dorfles's book *Kitsch* (1959) appeared in English in 1970 in what Hugh Honour described in a review as "an only too suitable 'bad translation'". Jacques Sternberg's *Kitsch* was published by Academy Editions, London, in 1972. Biba, which opened in the old Kensington store Derry & Toms in 1973, contained a "Kitsch" (sic) room, which sold filled plastic boxes, ashtrays like miniature loos and

wore extraordinary uniforms hobble-

with straps and slashed with zip-pockets; and shaved and dyed their hair into Mohican styles.

Punk combined violence and *kitsch*. The intelligentsia of the young generation had already had their baptism of brutality in the Paris May revolution of 1968, which had precipitated its own superb art form, the silkscreened and lithographed posters by which Jean Cassou wrote, the walls of Paris were "magnificently profaned". Now it was the turn of the non-university youth.

In 1979 the punk rock star Sid Vicious died from an overdose of heroin in Greenwich Village, New York, while out on \$50,000 bail after being accused of murdering his American girlfriend Nancy Spungen in October 1978. A film glorifying him was made, and the front page of *The Sun* of February 3, 1979, headlining his death, is still being printed on tee-shirts four years later.

If the psychedelic style of the 1960s

was an adaptation of Art Nouveau,

the basis of punk is to be found in the 1950s - in the hard rock style, in the spatters of Jackson Pollock, in the leopardskin patterns of strikers coats and Lady Docker's car seats and in the elliptical frames of Holiday Inn signs.

The *Evening Standard* on August 19,

1977 used the funeral of Elvis Presley as a chance to rail against punk

"Presley's death like his life is

inevitably attended by much that is

ersatz and professionally staged - an

extravaganza of *kitsch* of every variety.

But there is no mistaking the real shock, bereavement and desolation on thousands of those faces pressed against the gates of his house and queuing for the memorial service. Will they cry like that for Johnny Rotten?

Probably not; but perhaps there was something to be said for punk beyond the punks' own suggestion of a justified revenge on a society that had given them some short shrift. In the contribution I was asked to write for the Preston Polytechnic Seventies exhibition catalogue, I tried to say what that "something" was: "Many regard punk as an evil phenomenon, something which threatens the fragile basis upon which old ladies get beaten up on tube trains, who can dissent from this view? But in the decorative arts, I cannot help regarding it as something fresh and hopeful. Before a new order comes into being, the old one must be destroyed, and punk is nothing if not destructive. I grew up in decades, and in a section of society (the middle-middle-class) where conformity reigned. When I walk along the King's Road, Chelsea, today and see that young people have had the sheer courage to turn themselves into walking works of art with pink and green hair and extraordinary trousers hobbled at the legs by stapes, with weird tattoos on their hope for the arts. Good art can only begin with an act of bad taste - a shocking breach with the conformist past."

"Jan 19. I have been asked to produce another 49 operas for television. God, how I hate television. I will do just these 49 operas and then go back to life as an ordinary GP, with just one hand-held camera and a sound recordist. Who knows - perhaps one day Peter Hall will come in complaining of a runny nose?"

"Jan 20. Why have we got a nose? I mean, why not, two noses? To sniff instead would be to give us directional location of the thing we were sniffing. On the other hand, a double nose would be very difficult to do in a pop-up book."

"Jan 21. My hands have received a very lucrative TV offer. They have been asked to demonstrate the history of theatre today. On the other hand, the rest of me will not be interested. Well, God, how I hate television. Try to do better tomorrow."

"In 1973 the building that we now call Peter Hall was opened on the South Bank, and Jonathan Miller resigned the next day. He immediately set to work on his great opus, a pop-up history of the world with special reference to the spleen."

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Shakespeare's diaries, however, tell a different story.

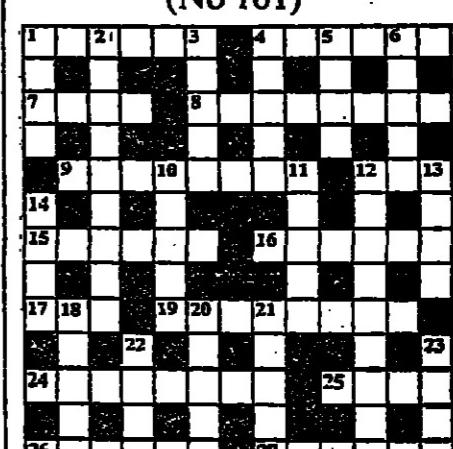
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"Jan 21. This morn have I churned out three tragicomedies. The morrow I must do full better. Rain, fogge and pestilence."

"Now, 380 years later, Jonathan Miller will be telling you in *The Times* next week how to make your own pop-up books, produce your own Shakespeare plays, and get those nasty stains off your duvet and hose. The week after that he will be going back to work as a male nurse. Don't forget - only in *The Times*, the Pop-up World of Jonathan Miller!"

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 161)



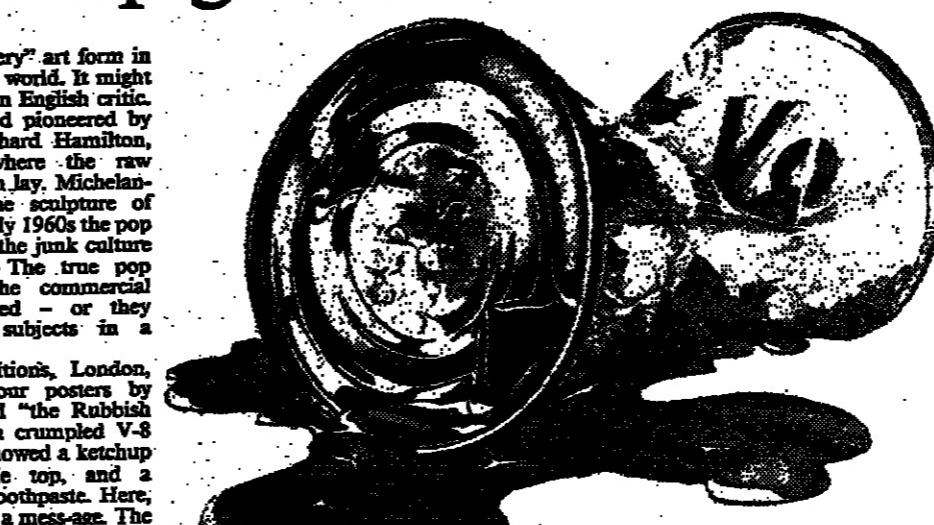
ACROSS
1 Quasi stellar radio source (6)
4 Political revolt (6)
7 Restless desire (4)
8 Train passage way (8)
9 Riding breeches (8)
12 Loft ball (3)
15 Harass (6)
16 Lots (6)
17 Hive insect (3)
19 In these times (8)
24 Pharisee's opponent (8)
25 Culminating point (4)
26 Superficial layer (6)
27 Young cat (6)

DOWN
1 Witty saying (4)
2 Religious reicide (9)
3 Restate points (5)
4 Peeler (5)
5 Taunt (4)
6 Australian hen (5)
7 Shelter (5)
8 Firmly substantial (5)
10 Beach sail boat (4,5)
13 Spooled toy (2,2)
14 Crusty sore (4)
18 Fill with pride (5)
20 Pound note (5)
21 Oversmart man (5)
22 Brim (4)
23 Not fat (4)

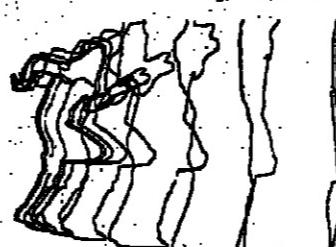
SOLUTION TO NO 160

ACROSS: 1 Seniors 5 Nape 8 Pedal 9 Entitle 11 Serenade 13 Guan 15 Spadework 18 Doxy 19 Farflung 22 Staring 23 Not on 24 Okra 25 Stools
DOWN: 2 Elder 3 Oil 4 Aberdeen Angus 5 NATO 6 Potluck 7 Spasm 10 Elms 12 Angus 14 Wolf 15 Six pack 16 Odds 17 Agony 26 Until 21 Diva 23 NCO

Pop goes a decade



The V8 juice can: one of "The Rubbish Prints"



"powerful and compact information processor, tailored to communicate with the designer in the medium he best understands - visual images."

There was some direct spin-offs of the exhibition in art, notably a limited set of lithographs issued by Motif Editions, of images made by computers. People began to talk about computer graphics as though this was the way ahead for art. The Korean artist Nam June Paik boldly asserted that "the cathode ray will one day replace canvas".

● Cybernetics
The exhibition Cybernetic Serendipity, organized by Jasia Reichardt at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, in 1968, showed some of the possibilities of a relationship between art and computers. Could they become more sophisticated than endearingly humanoid robots in a space movie? This 1968 ICA show suggested the possibility of computer-aided design. The graphic display terminal was a

Malcolm Brown

moreover...
Miles Kington

It's a pop-up world

THE POP-UP WORLD OF JONATHAN MILLER

Just how does this phenomenon we call Jonathan Miller work?

Come to that, how do pop-up books work? Why is it that, when we open a pop-up book, Jonathan Miller's fingers come writhing out at us, labelled "Jonathan Miller's fingers"?

How do we know that they aren't seaweed or a new kind of tea time biscuit? And why are we asking all these questions? The technology of pop-up books goes back into the depth of history. The Romans had books. They also had stories, some of them looking remarkably like Jonathan Miller. Their problem was how to combine the two, so that a healthy Roman villa owner, living perhaps in Gaul but with a numbered account in Helvetia, could open a new coffee-table volume and have the living features of Jonathan Miller, or just that year's Roman Emperor, spring out at him.

The Roman Empire never solved this in about AD600. At about the same time a small Saxon community in what we now call Germany were passing its bags prior to moving to Britain for a collective time-sharing experiment and labelling all the inhabitants so that they should not be laid aside on arrival. Their problem: what to label the miller.

"I know!" said someone. "Let's call him Miller!"

Now, 1,300 years later, everyone in our society can own their own surname except the very rich indeed, who can only afford titles, and technology has come so far that you can open an ordinary-looking book and find Jonathan Miller's nose popping out at you.

Why have we got noses? What would happen if we breathed in all the time and never breathed out?

Why isn't there a Sir Peter Hall pop-up? The secret, perhaps, lies in Jonathan Miller's Diaries.

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

Behind the zany public world of John Cleese lay a man engulfed by depression. In a new book, he tells how he is learning to laugh again

How a Python shed his tortured skin

John Cleese once said that Python humour was informed with goodwill and enjoyment of life. Ten years ago there was little joyful about his own life. Behind the screen antics and high jinks lay concern about his marriage, vision and depression. He also suffered recurring bouts of low-grade fits through three check-ups gave him a clean bill of health. Perhaps the causes were psychosomatic, suggested his GP.

It was the first step towards what Cleese calls "The Wonderful World of Shrinks" and three and half years of group therapy under Dr Robin Skynner and his wife Prue. Cleese describes the experience as the most interesting of his adult life and in 1981, three years after leaving the group, he suggested writing a book on "the experience and the ideas, attitudes and methods of modern group and family therapy". Skynner agreed and tomorrow sees the publication of their joint book, *Families and How to Survive Them*.

Written in dialogue form, it deals with problems of marriage, babies, toddlers, children and family relationships as well as authority and teenagers. It is non-technical - a popular presentation, as Skynner puts it. "Families" refers to both men's experiences, though Cleese doesn't wallow in the autobiographical. He wanted to share the half dozen chinks of light he glimpsed over the three and a half years, and indeed he himself appears in a very new light.

Not the strutting, pig-headed Fawlty or any of the professional bigots he plays. Here he's an aggressive student, wrestling gentle wisdom from his tutor. He demands answers and forces Skynner to make himself clear, as the doctor recalls: "I couldn't get away with any jargon. He wouldn't let up and I began to realize that I didn't know what I was talking about and had to go back to first principles".

Cleese was an eminently suitable co-author; people could identify with him in the dialogues and not be afraid of the emotions they found mentioned, which corresponded with their own. Also they would be less likely to instinctively shrink away from shrink if his name was on the cover. "Once you're known,"

says Cleese, "in one branch, writing books like this is possible, like the Frank Bough Book Philosophy".

His wit defuses the pain of some of the revelations in the text - where one goes wrong with children or partners. He rags the long-suffering doctor, calling him Fount of All Wisdom, Pundit and Oracle. He also puts the brake on any obscenities. "Hang on a moment, I'm over-saturated!" he cries at one point. They worked two years, taping conversations, then editing and distilling till it was quite clear. During the first year Cleese spent two days a week with Skynner in the doctor's kitchen slogging away at it. The second year he was making *Private on Parade* and *The Meaning of Life*, which put the onus on Skynner.

Before therapy, which he entered into "taking a deep breath and jumping in", Cleese had suffered from manic running around. "I had a lot of tension and was subconsciously keeping myself busy to avoid confronting certain emotions. I cut myself off from my emotions and also from people. With therapy the rate of change was very slow. I began by thinking what a tough bastard Skynner was. But it worked and was effective."

"I felt emotions changing, followed by a few days feeling dreamy after heavy sessions. My brain was sort of rewiring and I needed a notice up saying 'Closed till Tuesday for alterations'. Before, everything went through my brain like the Indian saying 'the mind chatters like a drunken monkey'. I had to ask myself whether I was depressed - I couldn't just feel it."

Cleese flatly refuses to say what caused the depressions - only that it went back to his childhood. Indeed the book itself shows how childhood experience affects behaviour in the rest of our life, and Skynner added, "I'm not surprised".

How did it change his views? "I had deeply engrained attitudes about how couples should be together and have a kind of mutual dependence. This was very much brought into question and then after a long period of time, I began to see that relationships work best if you



John Cleese: "I cut myself off from my emotions and also from people". Before therapy, he suffered from manic running around.

can be very independent of each other."

The realization did not save his marriage to Connie Booth - he stresses that that hadn't been the object of going into therapy in the first place - but other revelations on the nature of paranoia and putting blame for all mistakes on others helped avoid recriminations and bitterness after the break-up. Now their relationship is "very mendy and cooperative" as far as their 11-year-old daughter, Cynthia, is concerned.

Therapy also quite changed his attitude to fatherhood. "The improvement in our relationship was dramatic once I drew the lines and became much more relaxed about being firm and now I have very few disciplinary problems with Cynthia. But before, I thought being firm was 'wrong'." Now, Cleese adds, "I think that his father was right - he was an excellent father to me - but he was not right

child, his father an insurance salesman - and allowed his ego to grow without any boundaries."

Cleese sees a parallel with the Labour Party, which he used to support before he saw them chickening out and molly-coddling their supporters and the usual fear of losing their support. The Labour Party was weak,

but he now realizes that the party is not the only one that has lost its way. "There are all sorts of political parties that are all about the same thing - the same old story. The same old story of 'we're better than you' and 'we're better than us'." The same old story of "we're better than you".

I have never thought of myself as having much in common with Paul Getty - apart from sometimes feeling incredibly old - but I am beginning to sympathize with him for having installed a pay-phone at Sutton Place. As we all know, he was taken for a ride by foreign house guests dialling the world, and I have come to the conclusion, after five years' research, that there are more similarities than differences between foreign house guests and one's own children. Both have an alien lingo, eccentric manners and expensive tastes.

As I write, there are clicks and pings coming from the bell-box in the hall, which usually means my son is placing a call. I don't mind him playing with the phone - I have always regarded it as state property; what haunts me is that if typing monkeys can come up with *Hamlet*, my son's teeming little fingers will have no difficulty in raising someone in Novosibirsk.

In this street there is always someone ready to trump you about something. Just as Bobby Marshall is caringer than thou, and Parvis Maitland, my horrible lawyer friend, is cleverer than thou and thou put together, so retired rock star from number 3 always has a story that seems taller than thine by a mile. Judging by his records, however, he is incapable of invention, and the other gents must be telling the truth. I mean, I've never heard of anyone who has a name as good as mine, and I've never seen anyone who wears fashions as good as mine, and I've never seen anyone who has an income as good as mine.

Quite possibly I'll never even hear of anyone who has an income as good as mine. I have no idea what the hell I'm talking about, but I do know that I'm not the only one who wears fashions as good as mine, and I'm not the only one who has an income as good as mine.

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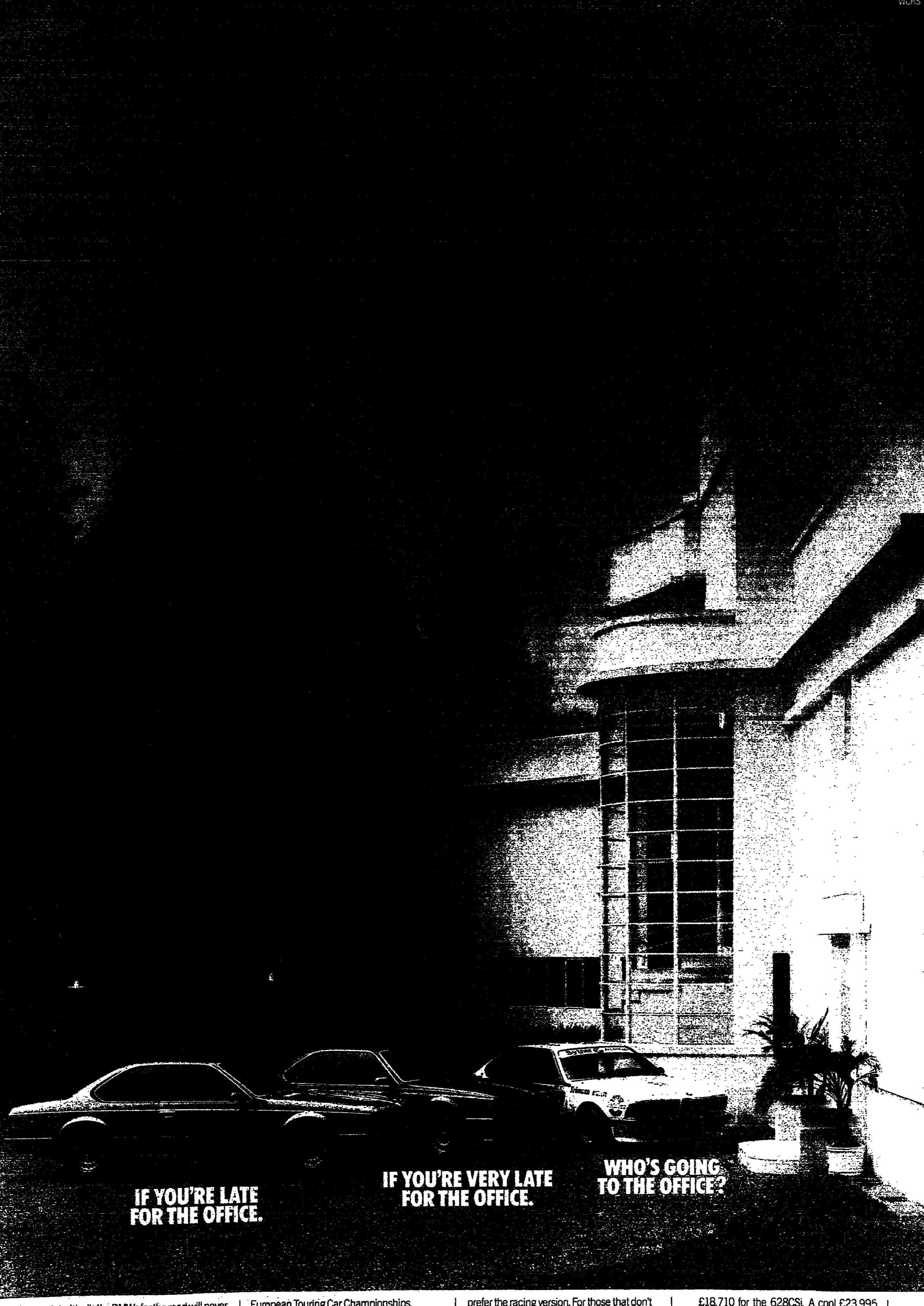
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FOR THE OFFICE.**

**IF YOU'RE VERY LATE
FOR THE OFFICE.**

**WHO'S GOING
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prefer the racing version. For those that don't the 635CSi offers a minor compensation: a surprisingly frugal 24.7 mpg overall.

And how much do you pay for this rare combination of performance, economy and (let's be honest) sheer unashamed luxury?

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Growing pains

When the "Plant a Tree in '73" campaign was launched in an attempt to repair the ravages of Dutch elm disease, cynical nurserymen and landscape architects went around humoring a subversive little rhyme: "Plant a tree in '73, plant some more in '74; how many alive in '75?" The answer in '83 is half at best, and a third at worst, of the 100 million trees planted annually, according to Cedric Linsley of the Landscape Institute.

At £1 a tree, the investment is staggering, as is the loss. Many have succumbed to drought says Linsley, especially during the three very hot summers since Plant a Tree started. Trees in towns and cities tend to fare better because the local authorities look after them to some extent; the classic failures are the well-meaning amenity bodies who got out to the country on a Saturday morning, strip them in with a silver spade, and then walk away.

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Bonny's bouquet

An anonymous Swiss hopes to sell a half-bottle of South African wine for more than £300 at Sotheby's today. It is a Great Constantia of 1795, bought in a sale of items from the cellar of the Duke of Northumberland at Alnwick about 10 years ago. A bottle is said to have got through 200 dozen bottles of the stuff a month in exile. The Great Constantia used to grace the tables of the Georgian households in this country, according to *Times* wine writer June MacQuillan. It is still glorious even at that advanced age, treacly in colour with an amazingly strong grapey Muscat.

CBS has just announced a world premier recording of a Schubert moment: 45 bars of music, not all scored. Despite its brevity, the music evokes a strangely haunting atmosphere. CBS insists.

Running buffet

The story of the Sharrow Bay Hotel in Penrith, Cumbria seems to be rather fascinating, says the English Tourist Board. "From the raw ingredients of a bicycle, assorted kitchen cutlery and a red settee called Peggy, Francis Coulson has put up a superb standard of cuisine. Sounds yummy.

BARRY FANTONI



"Neville was so excited he almost woke up."

Where's the Rub?

The next issue of the *Spectator* is to carry a note on its letters page differentiating between Michael Rubinstein whose letter in this week's issue deplores the "continuing failure" of all concerned in the *Liberation Review's* publication of that article by Roald Dahl "to recognize their lapse in judgment, still less show remorse about the offence it caused", and Michael Rubinstein, legal adviser to the *Liberation Review*. Both Rub... you-know-who are genuine; the note was requested by Rubinstein-with-and-also Alexander Chancellor, the editor, accepted. "The ramifications of this thing seem to be absolutely endless", sighs Chancellor wearily. What spirit of mischief might have prompted Rubinstein-with-an-to write the letter is a matter for speculation.

Unthink tank

The peace-loving London Borough of Lewisham plans to dismantle a tank-shaped climbing frame in a playground in Folkestone Gardens, New Cross, in the hope that local juveniles will study war no more if they are given a more conventional structure to climb upon. Counter-revolutionary Tories are muttering that it would cost less to convert the thing to a bulldozer shape, and in any case there is at least one Conservative borough prepared to buy the tank as it is.

The Duke of Edinburgh has written to Noboru Hamada, president of the Japan Marine Machinery Development Association, requesting a briefing on Japanese techniques for cutting fuel costs by reintroducing the use of sail in modern shipping. Computer-assisted sails are already assisting the knots-per-gallon averages of coastal ore-carriers and tankers in the Far East. The Palace was not amused by my suggestion that the royal yacht Britannia might be on the verge of sprouting such rigs. Prince Philip's letter arises only from "a general interest" in such matters, it maintains. PHS

So easy to stop the Labour levy

by Michael Ivens

Public expressions of guilt by trade union officials are rare. It is no coincidence that they occur tomorrow, just as the TUC is to meet Mr Norman Tebbit to discuss the political levy. Trade union officials are almost excessively prepared to confess that they have been mishandling the levy.

Since 1947, union members in England, Scotland and Wales have had to opt out rather than opt in to a paying political levy to the Labour Party. Now Mr Tebbit is considering changing the law and he is examining acting against employers who deduct the political levy from unionists' pay packets. Trade union leaders are preparing a fresh approach to Mr Tebbit. "We have sinned in the past" will be the gambit. "We have not always been as efficient as we should be in showing workers that they have a right to opt out. Give us a chance and we will improve. But don't legislate."

The present position of trade unionists on the political levy can be summed up by a survey carried out by National Opinion Polls for Aims of Industry. It showed that approximately 40 per cent of non-Labour voters pay the Labour levy - through ignorance, fear and apathy. Another 25 per cent don't know whether or not they pay it. A mere 24 per cent prefer the opting-out system.

Some trade unions, of course, are better than others in making it easy for their members to opt out. Mr Clive Jenkins' ASTMS allows 70 per cent to opt out - and deserves credit for it. But how do we account for the National Union of Dyers,

Bleachers and Textile Workers getting 100 per cent of contributors to the political fund in 1979?

Or in 1981 the TGWU achieving 98 per cent, the NUR 97 per cent and Aslef 94 per cent? As Labour got less than half of the trade union vote, it hardly comes from political conviction!

There is a strong case, then, for changing from opting out to indicating positively your support for Labour by opting in. But Mr Tebbit would be mistaken if he thought that by changing the law in this way, he would stop the situation whereby non-Labour trade unionists find themselves being used as part of a block vote to elect Labour leaders and to create Labour policies.

These days many employers collect the union dues under so-called "sweatheart" agreements with unions. Very often the union will ask the employer to collect the political levy as well.

"But how do we know which employees have opted out?", will be the personnel officer's question. "Just collect the lot", is the common reply. And if the personnel man asks how the non-Labour supporters are to get their money back, the reply is often: "Just send them along to us."

How all this works in practice can be seen from the case of the brave Mr Jack Clemison who, year in, year out, asked the Post Office and Engineering Union for the political levy which the Post Office had knocked off his wages. Mr

Clemison also handed opting out forms to his colleagues - and was threatened that he would lose his job by trade union representatives. Finally, after 17 years, Mr Clemison took his case to the certification officer.

That gentleman produced a curious ruling. The he said, had to pay yearly in advance for the money deducted by the Post Office from Mr Clemison's wages. Not surprisingly the ruling was overturned on appeal.

Trade unions and guilty employers sometimes argue that in these days of the computer, it is too expensive or difficult to take into account political levy exceptions. The opposite is the case. Computers are magnificently flexible and employers make all kinds of exceptions in pay, pensions, invoices, special rates and com-

missions.

Many company chairmen are ignorant of the fact that many of their employees are being forced to pay the levy - even though they have opted out. They look rather pink when they discover it.

The solution is simple. The law should make it illegal for employers to deduct the levy if trade unionists have stated they do not want to pay it. And Mr Tebbit should deal with the loophole in the 1913 Act which allows the levy to be collected from everyone if discrimination presents severe difficulties. That clause is used as an excuse by employers and trade unions and should be deleted.

The author is director of Aims of Industry.

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Two months after martial law's end, Roger Boyes assesses the army's new role

Poland's army: still no political retreat

Warsaw

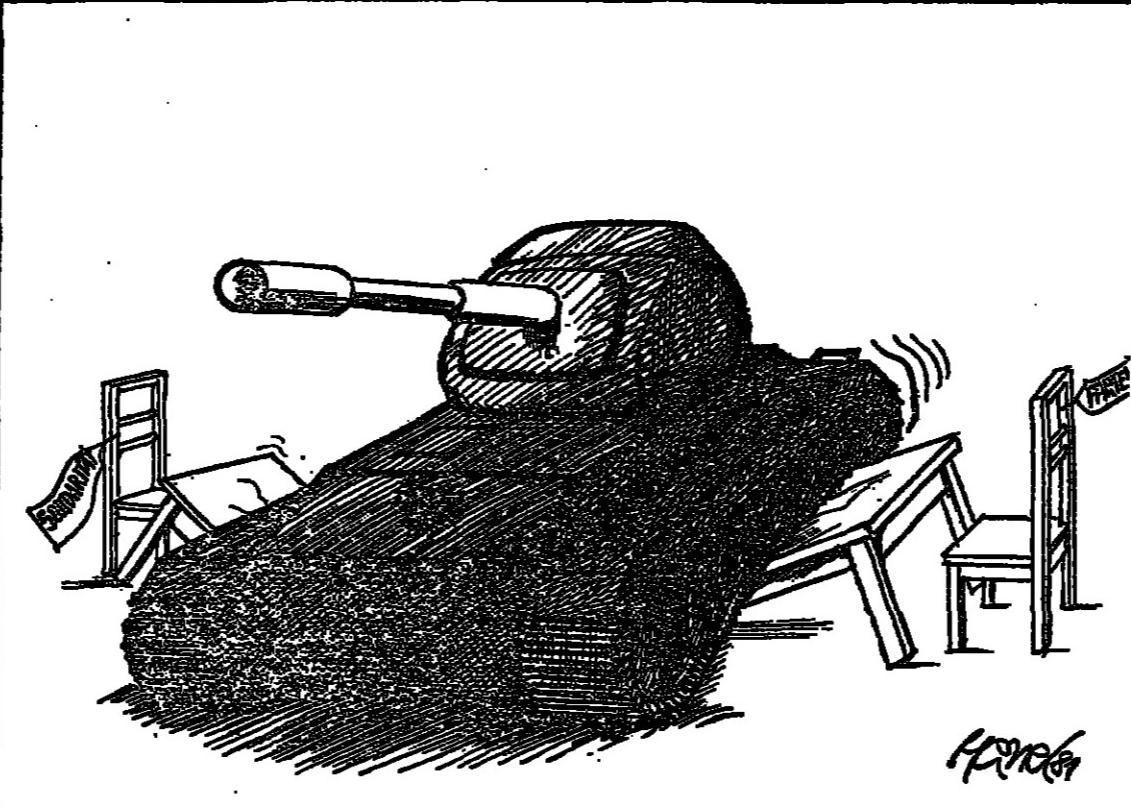
In the gloom and muggy warmth of a Warsaw underpass, near the flower-sellers and the wizened women offering strings of garlic, an accordion-wielding ex-soldier plays day in, day out an old partisan lament: "The willows weep, the girl friend cries, her eyes wet with tears when she sees the hard, hard fate of the soldier". The zloty notes accumulate in his old cloth cap, for the popular sentiment is strong. Even after 19 months of less-than-pesant martial law, soldiers are an object of respect.

Very soon, probably in a matter of weeks, General Jaruzelski, the country's leader, is expected to resign as Minister of Defence, a post he has held for 15 years, thus yielding his direct control of an institution that evokes simple patriotic emotions but complex political thoughts. The declaration of martial law in December 1981, the creation of a ruling military council, the soldiers on the streets, the armoured personnel carriers, these seemed at the time like the trappings of a coup d'état, a seizure of power. In fact, it rapidly emerged that the army was being used as a mechanism of change from one discredited governing party to another that had at least the authority to carry out its decisions.

Thousands of party apparatchiks were dislodged. The role of the army was to control the pace of change so that it would not seem threatening, to ensure that the direction of those changes did not undermine the Communist Party even further and to lend authority - without physically participating - to the efforts of the internal security forces in stamping out the Solidarnosc opposition. For the army to have achieved these unpopular tasks without forfeiting popularity showed great political skill.

But now two months have gone by since the lifting of martial law and it is becoming clear that the army is not just an instrument of transition. It has fulfilled its national task, but not its party political one. Although General Jaruzelski declared that the army would now withdraw to the "second line", senior officers are well entrenched in the party and the state administrations.

This raises some important questions about the significance of armies in communist societies, when does an army's professional commitment to national security



Dialogue ended

become a commitment to national "salvation"? When is it legitimate for an army to intervene politically - former commissars should maintain permanent contact at offices or factories where they have worked?

This is the new military role in Poland: the soldier is a political activist, for only the army can boast the monolithic party structure that should be in the ideal Marxist world. It is only natural that the general running the administration of a central Polish town will disagree with the general who is running Gdansk when it comes to the allocation of scarce funds. It is only natural that, confronted with political realities, some officers will become enamoured of reform while others will be convinced of its hopelessness. These differences are not fatal, but they will undermine the political homogeneity that allowed the army to declare martial law in the first place.

Sitting at their desks, unflurried by the ending of martial law, three generals hold down crucial ministerial posts - the Interior Ministry (Czeslaw Kiszczak), Local Administration (Wladimir Oliwa) and Mining (Czeslaw Piotrowski). Several generals are also deputy ministers, including the deputy minister of education. The head of the anti-corruption unit is General Tadeusz Hupalski. Army officers serve as provincial governors in three Baltic ports (including Gdansk). In Silesia (Katowice), in central Poland (in four towns), as mayor of Warsaw, as first party secretary of Poznan, as chairman of local people's councils in several cities.

And, perhaps even most importantly, army officers control two of the most decisive sections of the Communist Party central committee - the personnel department and international relations. About 15 per cent of the party administration is believed to be run by officers.

None of this means that the army has ousted the party; rather, one of the most active and trustworthy parts of the party has taken up a stronger leadership role. Army

participation in the Party may not make communism more popular but it should make it more effective.

The problems are large, but they lurk, like icebergs, scarcely visible on the surface. First, the army by politicizing itself is risking not only an ultimate loss of prestige but also the reproduction of party factionalism that plagues the party at large. It is only natural that the general running the administration of a central Polish town will disagree with the general who is running Gdansk when it comes to the allocation of scarce funds. It is only natural that, confronted with political realities, some officers will become enamoured of reform while others will be convinced of its hopelessness. These differences are not fatal, but they will undermine the political homogeneity that allowed the army to declare martial law in the first place.

Second, the church is resisting the idea that the army should become a kind of Marxist finishing school and has instructed priests to strengthen their links with conscripts. Finally, the pull of the Polish Army's other mission - to defend the country against outside attack - will become stronger, especially if the West stations new missiles in Europe.

The emphasis on defence may well lead to a redefinition of the army's political role. The officers involved in running the country at the moment are mainly from a political background - invariably Soviet-trained at staff college level - and are not really needed back at the barracks. But if the Warsaw Pact is to make credible its threat to reply to new US missiles with appropriate military measures, then it must demonstrate that its warlords are not entirely desk-bound.

Richard Thursby, a NYYC member, has said: "There won't be more than a couple of days' mourning before we start thinking about how to win the damned thing back." But now it is free to any club and syndicate in the US, never mind the rest of the world, to bid independently. The exclusiveness which the NYYC enjoyed for so long finally turned against it. Never was a US 12-metre permitted to compete against a foreign boat outside the America's Cup; so they never knew, for example, what all the six foreign challengers learnt that Australia II's tall, slim rudder was also part of her tacking ability, and they copied it.

When Conner finally got into the water against Lexcen's Lightning, as it is known, he was raw to the exceptional qualities which Victory '83 and the others had long since discovered. Ultimately, the man who never allowed a mistake had made a monumental blunder.

Back in New York, where the club was formed in 1844, and settled into its present mansion in 1901, those members not in Newport had been listening to a radio commentary in

the bar with its red leather chairs and portraits of boats and skippers of long ago. The club has no television; it is that kind of club. No one knows what they thought as Liberty's lead disappeared by the start of the final leg.

Now it was Conner, unaccompanied by any member of the NYYC, who walked alone through the car park, through the milling streets of hard-luck criers to the Armoury, where he faced the press, knowing he had blown a winning position.

"I'd like to stay for an hour of questions", he said when paying tribute to Australia II. But when a mass of camera, television and press men is witnessing a man with tears swelling his eyes as he says the United States has no cause to be ashamed of their performance, they do not press him with questions. They just let him put on his straw hat, accept a thin cheer, and disappear back into the bedlam outside.

The NYYC might have supported the man who surrendered its heritage, but seemingly did not have the guts. It was left to syndicate chairman Ed du Moulin to appear later and say Conner was still the best helmsman. But the truth was he just did not have the best boat, and after months of relentless pressure, the man who never allowed a mistake had made a monumental

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Here's health, the French way

Eighteen months ago I had to go into hospital for a minor operation. First

I was inspected by a consultant who debased the English language.

On the other hand, I can see

nothing remotely improper about

the contemplation and discussion of

long-term changes in the way we pay

for health. If the NHS ever was "the

envy of the world" - which I doubt

it certainly isn't now, we should not

be inhibited from learning from the

experience of our neighbours.

I have never been convinced by

the arguments of those who would

have us follow the US example and

rely on private medical insurance

with a safety-net. The evidence of

the capacity of the medical and legal

professions to rip off such a system

is really too impressive to be

dismissed. Only last week an

American acquaintance who could

not remotely be accused of enthusiasm

for "socialized medicine" told me of a friend who had received a \$500,000 bill for the treatment of his wife, who had just died of cancer.

Allow a multiple of five for poetic exaggeration and the cost would still

be indefensible.

But the American system is not

the only alternative. In France

health care is financed from

compulsory insurance and topped

up from taxes, much as it is in

Britain. But with a crucial differ-

ence instead of the service being either

free at point of use, or subject to

charges (for prescriptions, dental

care etc) unrelated to costs, as it is

on this side of the Channel, the user

is billed and has to pay and

subsequently reclaims.

There are plenty of pitfalls

administrative costs are higher,

since the sheep who can be expected

to meet the initial charge until they

can reclaim it have to be sorted from

the



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THE REAGAN OFFER

Should President Reagan be rude to the Russians if he is genuinely seeking an agreement on arms control? In his address to the United Nations General Assembly on Monday he made important concessions in an effort to break the stalemate at the Geneva talks on Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF), but also questioned Soviet good faith and criticized the record of the USSR in international affairs. The initial response from Moscow does not augur well for progress at Geneva; Tass counterattacked by accusing Mr Reagan of using "gross distortions of generally known facts, demagogery, disinformation, and blatant lies."

Yet the balance of his speech was about right. The proposals on arms control were revealed to Soviet negotiators at Geneva the previous week, rather than first announced on a public occasion for maximum propaganda advantage, as had been President Andropov's practice. The criticisms of the USSR were relatively muted, and were certainly just. Unlike the Soviet leader, President Reagan has to take account of public opinion in the Nato democracies, and explain why it is so difficult to achieve arms limitations clearly of benefit to the whole world.

President Reagan has made three proposals which go some way to meeting Soviet demands at the INF talks. First, the US would not seek to match in western Europe the total number of warheads deployed by the USSR in its European and Asian territories, but would maintain equal numbers on a global basis.

NOT YET A RESIGNING MATTER

The twenty-one republican prisoners still at large from the break-out at the Maze prison on Sunday will not, even if they remain at liberty, have the same operational value for the Provisional IRA as they had before they were arrested, convicted and imprisoned. That value, denominated in murders and explosions, was very high in the case of some of them. But they are now marked down by the police forces of both parts of Ireland. If they show themselves they risk recapture. They are too hot a property for most missions. Their escape may not do much directly to reinforce the IRA's ability to sustain the commission of crimes that it calls war.

However that may be, there is no mistaking the political significance of the escape. It was one of those deeds of daring that are the very stuff of the Irish republican tradition of armed resistance. The Provos triumphantly cry "Colditz", and they must be allowed the comparison. It is the perfect propaganda antidote to the procession of informants that have shaken the organization's morale. It is deeply disheartening to the security forces in Northern Ireland, especially the units which laboured to bring these men to justice in the first place. It does not leave unscathed those who carry political responsibility in the province.

From the point of view of authority the misadventure is so gross and notorious as to bring up the question of political resignation, the demand for which has been heard both in

thus achieving a balance at a level lower than the numbers of land-based weapons of intermediate range now possessed by the USSR.

This would mean that Moscow would reduce the warheads targeted on western Europe while fewer US weapons would be required when deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles begins in December.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, has the opportunity during his visit to China to explain the thinking behind the new proposals to his hosts who, faced with 108 of the triple warhead SS20 missiles across their northern border, clearly prefer the destruction of the Soviet weapons envisaged in President Reagan's initial "zero option". For China and Japan, an arms limitation which leaves these Soviet weapons on site in Asia cannot be satisfactory, and since they are highly mobile and could be redeployed to threaten Western Europe, it is certainly vital that Washington retains the right to deploy "elsewhere" the missiles within the global balance not deployed in Europe.

The second concession – agreeing to include medium range bombers forces – will greatly complicate the work of the INF negotiators, but has long been demanded by Moscow which claims that when aircraft are included a balance already exists without the cruise and Pershing II missiles. This is based on a distortion of the figures, however, which brings in British and French deterrents and even includes aircraft stationed in the USA with shorter range than Soviet bombers

nation of a record of failure, but a sudden and spectacular reverse in an area where things were going fairly well.

The time for a Dugdale type of resignation will come, if at all, when Sir James Hennessy has made his report. It may then be possible to see how far the disaster was due to the negligence or criminality of individuals, and how far to errors of policy or laxity in their execution. In measuring the obligations of political honour against those conclusions it will be fair to remember that we are not talking about Whitehall in conditions of external peace and civil harmony. The inveterate and bloodstained enemies of the state who are active in Northern Ireland have the power to inflict occasional spectacular coups de main in the face even of vigilance.

The name of Mr Nicholas Scott, the junior minister with responsibility for prisons, is the one to which a call for resignation is being pinned, not solely for reasons that have to do with security in Northern Ireland. If this were a resigning matter – and it is our view that it is not, subject to the finding of the inquiry – it would implicate the Secretary of State and not simply one of his parliamentary under-secretaries. The political administration at Stormont is compact. Security policy is at the heart of it, and the Maze is near the heart of security policy. Responsibility goes right to the top.

SAILING, SAILING

Much of the fascination of the America's Cup has derived from the stubborn brilliance with which the Americans defended it for 132 years. The desire to be the first to break the spell brought rich men, superb yachts and the world's best helmsmen to Newport time after time. One by one they lost, and each time they did so the fascination grew.

Now the Australians have won at last, after many attempts, and the spell is broken. Skilled sailors though they are, they won primarily on the drawing board and in the Dutch testing tank, for they had a markedly faster boat. The Americans, who probably had the edge as sailors, were out-designed rather than out-sailed, and they nearly won the last race.

The Americans' secret lay not just in the mysterious winged keel but in the whole design around it which enabled them to make a light boat without loss of stability. Their victory is no less praiseworthy for that. The complex formulae of the twelve-metre class challenges the designer as much as the helmsman. The Americans took up the challenge and simply did a better job than anyone else. They well deserve their victory.

The Americans were somewhat ill-mannered to object as vociferously as they did. As for the British, sadness that their magnificent effort was not quite

sufficient should not stifle praise for the Australians.

Of the Americans' behaviour it can perhaps be said in mitigation that as a nation they would not be where they are in the world today if they did not attach so much importance to winning. But this will make the loss even harder for them. In the way that symbolism sometimes becomes attached to matters of only marginal relevance, Americans may see the loss of the cup as further confirmation of their fears that they are losing their ability to hold the outer frontiers of technological innovation. Some may even see it as part of a wider loss of predominance.

Doubtless the Americans will fight back. They will fight on the computers and the drawing boards. They will fight in the testing tanks and finally on the water. But will other nations fight too? Will the magic hold? Obviously it will be somewhat reduced. No one can equal the Americans' feat unless the cup is held in Perth for another 132 years. Yet something will surely survive.

The America's Cup is rightly regarded as the Everest of yachting, a unique event in the refined upper atmosphere of sailing. The boats are magnificent thoroughbreds of astonishing beauty, almost archetypal yachts, so finely constructed for

Raising revenues of debtor countries

From Sir William Lithgow

Sir, Understanding the world banking crisis requires a little reflection. In 1974, after adjustment for inflation, the average cost of sovereign dollar borrowing was about -6% per cent by 1982 +13% per cent, a crude difference of 20 per cent. Nine years ago surplus oil revenues were flooding the money markets of industrialised countries committed to paying their oil suppliers more, but unwilling to pay their voters less. By last year, however, the Opec countries had become net borrowers.

The third proposal should certainly be welcomed by Moscow, since it allows for the reduction of Pershing II numbers with cruise missiles should an agreement to lower the overall balance be achieved. The faster Pershings are regarded by USSR as the greater threat, taking only eight minutes from their West German bases to reach targets in the USSR.

There is enough evidence of flexibility and compromise in these proposals to encourage a more constructive Soviet stance at Geneva. But President Reagan correctly emphasized the necessity of effective verification and pointed out the need for the Helsinki Final Act, the Convention on Biological Weapons, and earlier arms limitation treaties. It is not being rude to the Russians in saying that the tragedy of the Korean airliner showed how different is the Kremlin's attitude to truth and international cooperation. This is an unfortunate fact of life which the western public must bear in mind when demanding progress at Geneva. President Reagan's proposals, together with the imminent deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles, place the onus firmly on the Soviet leaders to show a similar willingness to reach agreement.

The White Paper starts from the mischievous and misleading premise that "the Government cannot ignore the deep and widespread sense of grievance felt by rate-payers". Having itself failed to reform the rating system the Government then orchestrated a campaign against those who have to operate the present outdated system with the intention of undermining public confidence in local government so as to pick it off like a ripe plum.

The Government claims credit for seeking "to reverse the growth in current expenditure" by "increasing the accountability of local authorities". Accountability is measured locally in votes and expenditure in "needs". Local government does not require a sermon on that. We provide vastly more information on our functions than does central government. It is not, we, who are frequently shelter behind the phrase "not in the public interest". All Cabinet papers are secret; all ours are open. Open government? Accountability? I ask you!

The Government go on to claim they "were fully prepared to propose to Parliament the abolition of domestic rates if consultation had revealed broad-based support..."

Hamburg! If we have to wait for a consensus on such an important matter, we are entitled to ask,

"Where has leadership gone?"

And what about industrial rates anyway? Local income tax would be an entirely viable alternative to rates, needing only a computer and a programme for its introduction. Doesn't the Government have any

computers? We do.

The White Paper simply will not do. It is the Government's job democratically to reform the 200-year-old rating system. It is not their job automatically to substitute their judgment for that of locally elected councillors.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY WHITE, Chief Executive, Swale Borough Council, Council Offices, Central Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent.

September 26.

institutions, under unremitting pressure from business interests, do all in their power to scupper initiatives aimed at social progress and ignore calls for action to combat unemployment and social exclusion. Making multinational companies operate under the same rules as national companies, who can blame the mass of West Europe's population, those in and out of work and their families, if they protest in interest in the future of the EEC?

The chairman of ICI, Shell, Philips, Fiat and so on might ask themselves whether their idea of Europe is one which serves only the immediate profitability of their individual companies. If that is the case, and I fear on the evidence of their lobbying over Vredeling it is, then their noble words about European unity will always be confounded by their shortsighted actions.

Sincerely yours,
HERMAN REBMAN,
General Secretary,
International Metalworkers'
Federation
Route des Acacias 54 bis,
Case postale 563,
CH-1227 Geneva,
Switzerland.

September 16.

Action on abortion

From Dr James Owen Drife

Sir, Ms Nankivell rightly points out

(September 21) that the 28-week

upper limit on legal termination of

pregnancy is out of date and should

be reduced, but her suggested limit of 14 weeks is based on a

misunderstanding of amniocentesis

which may have misled your readers.

Amniocentesis (drawing fluid

from the womb) is done around the

sixteenth week of pregnancy and is

impossible at 12 weeks because the

womb is too small. It is carried out

to diagnose congenital abnormality,

and with spine bifida an anomaly can

be obtained within days of the test.

However, in Down's syndrome and

other chromosome abnormalities

analysis of the fluid takes about

three weeks and termination cannot

be carried out until the twentieth

week of pregnancy, even if no

technical or administrative delays

occur. Faster methods of making

these diagnoses are being examined,

but are not yet reliable.

Nevertheless some reduction in

the legal limit is possible and

desirable, but when abortion was

last discussed in Parliament the

debate was inconclusive and the

status quo was left intact. Doctors

have therefore been left with the

ethical decisions about late abortion,

and it is rarely performed close to

the limit set by Parliament.

Recently it has been suggested in

your columns (September 20) that ethical decisions in medicine should

be made not by doctors but by

Parliament's injection both indi-

cates to me that this suggestion is impracticable.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES O. DRIFRE,

University of Leicester,

School of Medicine,

Department of Obstetrics and

Gynaecology,

Clinical Sciences Building,

Leicester Royal Infirmary,

PO Box 65,

Leicester.

September 23.

However, we shall achieve nothing without his "damned offices", for it is only by thus realising the value of our land asset that the necessary funds for the new station will ever be forthcoming.

Yours faithfully,

ALAN ETHERINGTON (Project Manager, Liverpool Street Redevelopment), British Railways Board, 50 Liverpool Street, EC2.

September 14.

Since the season of mists is all but upon us, as the British public remain as phlegmatic as ever, would it not be possible for the managers of our concert halls to have some notices drawn up?

Yours faithfully,

TOM CHIDLEY,

58 Adderley Road,

Harrow Weald,

Middlesex.

September 20.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Raising revenues of debtor countries

From Sir William Lithgow

Sir, Understanding the world banking crisis requires a little reflection. In 1974, after adjustment for inflation, the average cost of sovereign dollar borrowing was about -6% per cent by 1982 +13% per cent, a crude difference of 20 per cent.

Nine years ago surplus oil revenues were flooding the money markets of industrialised countries committed to paying their oil suppliers more, but unwilling to pay their voters less. By last year, however, the Opec countries had become net borrowers.

Sound money and sound economies cannot be achieved by arbitrary actions.

It is little wonder that the United Kingdom has a deficit on trade in manufactures when this new phase of money madness is closing the markets of developing countries.

New initiatives are urgently required from this side of the Atlantic, from the United Kingdom as a banking and industrial nation.

It is in the interests of all that we get our act together and overcome organisational problems that have left the world with too many idle hands and minds and too much poverty.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM LITHGOW,

P O Box 2,

Port Glasgow,

Renfrewshire.

September 26.

Financing pensions in weak economy

From Mr Nigel Vinson and Mr Philip Chappell

Sir, Lord Byers (September 17) by implication criticises our proposals to give the option for personal and portable pensions – as the self-employed now have – to all.

Charlton 15

Hopes fly high as the big boys pull out

by Arthur Reed

Britain's regional airports, the traditional loss-makers of the domestic aviation business, look set for a better future as the pattern of air travel within the United Kingdom changes radically.

Two major trends are already having an impact. Deregulatory policies of this and the previous Conservative Governments have resulted in a new generation of small airlines springing up, prepared to operate commuter services to towns and cities where none existed before. These airlines are also filling the vacuum left by British Airways as it has withdrawn from unprofitable routes as part of its retrenchment programme.

Secondly, the two main London airports, Heathrow and Gatwick, continue to move steadily towards saturation, and as the commuter airlines find it increasingly difficult to obtain take-off and landing "slots", they are inevitably looking to the regional airports.

Conversations with regional airport managers, however many miles away from the capital, may be, inevitably turn to the subject of the London airports, whose superb technical facilities, and enviable range of air services to points throughout the world act as a magnet for passengers and freight from throughout the British Isles.

Regional managers see no reason why passengers living in, say, the north of England or southern Scotland should have to fly to Heathrow or Gatwick to pick up a service to the Far East, and there is a danger that without such services departing from regional centres, that such passengers will commute to a European centre, such as Amsterdam, Zurich, or Frankfurt, to board long-haul aircraft.



From the big city to the beach: Manchester Airport with its terminal and runway, and the more casual approach at Barra Beach Airport, in Scotland

been running the operation at Exeter for Devon County Council, lost the contract when it came up for renewal and from next year British Airports International takes over.

About £3m has been spent on the airport in recent years; the runway lengthened and strengthened, a new radar system installed and passenger facilities improved. Although loan charges are high, it operates profitably and once again companies running inclusive tours on the continent are crucial to its business.

Air UK operates the important Exeter-Gatwick link and flights to the Channel Islands. Brymon operates from Exeter to the Scillies.

Mr Bill Bryce, the chairman of Brymon Airways, is one of the best-known names in the west country and is becoming increasingly well-known throughout the

Plymouth is a success story

country. His is not the first company to try their hand at Plymouth airport. Others have failed over the years but by constant improvements to the facilities, a keen eye for worthwhile routes and sheer persistence Mr Bryce has built a success story.

His airline became the tenant of Plymouth airport in 1974 and in 1980 purchased it on a 125 year lease from the City council. Mr Bryce called it "controlling our own destiny", but the takeover meant Brymon was the only airline in the country to own and operate its own airport. It also operates the civil airport at Newquay (alongside RAF St Mawgan) for Restormel council.

In 1972, the airline carried a mere 2,500 passengers. This year it expects the figure to be about 250,000 - about 150,000 of them on its scheduled services to Gatwick or Heathrow. So, for them, the growth of inclusive tour holidays by operators using regional airports has been a major boon.

All three of those airports are in the hands of local authorities, but the story of Plymouth airport is also that of Bill Bryce, an airlines entrepreneur still pushing his business from strength to strength.

The Cardiff-Wales airport has been owned and operated since 1974 by the three county councils of Glamorgan - mid, south and west. It is officially designated as the regional airport of South Wales and the South West.

In 1981-82 the councils were each called to contribute about £400,000 to the airport, starting in October. It makes Bristol the twenty-second British airport to link into Gatwick.

Exeter Airport Ltd., which has

Continued on page 16

Regional airports

chester International, with a new management team heavily oriented towards marketing, has been pursuing this path, and an indication of its success are regular jumbo flights of the Australian airline Qantas.

Run by two local authorities, Manchester International is the big success of the British regional airport scene, ploughing £5m profit back into the rates in the last financial year, but for many others the story is a far less happy one. According to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, only nine of the 23 local-authority run airports were in surplus in the financial year 1981-82.

Overall, the municipal airports returned a profit of £2.1m for the year, but the bulk of this was contributed by four airports, Manchester, Birmingham, East Midlands, and Luton. CIPFA's forecast for 1983-84 is for an improvement, with a total surplus of £3.8m, although it now appears that only eight of the airports will be in surplus, and with losses in the case of Liverpool, and a total surplus of nearly £3m. Apart from Sumburgh, all eight Scottish airports run largely as social services by the Civil Aviation Authority are loss-makers, and the authority, under direction from Government, is trying to sell them off to the private sector. It is a trend which has already begun in the West Country, and Plymouth airport now owned and

operated by Brymon Airways, one of the commuter airlines which are opening up new air travel opportunities for regional airports throughout the country.

One of the great problems which has always held back the development of airports in the British provinces has been local pride: airports are operated, often a large cost to the local ratepayers, in areas where none could be justified, and in many cases in the geographical shadow of another flying for the same passenger and freight markets.

Questions have also been raised as to the wisdom of allowing local authorities to operate what are highly-technical businesses with large budgets, especially since these airports have to compete for a share of the rates with sewage, cemeteries, and playing fields. But although the decisions on buying new radars, or terminal and runway extensions, may be slow in coming from council committees, and although airports compete with each other each year for Government approval of major schemes, there is no evidence to suggest that safety standards are compromised.

The Civil Aviation Authority keeps a tight watch on technical standards at every airport, whether it be Manchester International, or Barra, where landings are on the beach, and there are professional companies such as International Aeradio ready to provide under contract technical

services, from running fire services to managing entire airports.

In the past, it had been suggested that there should be a central body controlling the development of regional airports on a national basis, and that the British Airports Authority should take on this role. It is a suggestion which never found favour with the BAA, as that body pursued its remit from Government to be profitable. Today, free enterprise policies are beginning to dominate both air airports and airline sectors of British aviation, and this should lead, in the long term, to a better deal for the public for which it caters.

The West

Take-off for the holiday tours

Mr Les Wilson has been the general manager of the Bristol airport for the last three crucial years in which a loss has been turned into a healthy profit. In spite of that success he believes

there are too many UK provincial airports and fears that as competition intensifies some will go to the wall.

Ian Cran, director of the Cardiff-Wales airport does not agree. He believes that no large centre of population can be without its own airport and is convinced of the role of local authorities in providing them. He also says the modern air traveller, businessman or holidaymaker, now expects such a local service.

Both airports, together with Exeter, owe much to the increasing desire of air travellers to fly abroad without having to waste a day going to Gatwick or Heathrow. So, for them, the growth of inclusive tour holidays by operators using regional airports has been a major boon.

All three of those airports are in the hands of local authorities, but the story of Plymouth airport is also that of Bill Bryce, an airlines entrepreneur still pushing his business from strength to strength.

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The North: ambitious plans, despite the 'honeypot' of the South

Designated in the 1978 White Paper on policy as an international gateway airport, Manchester International has wasted no time in setting out to live up to that accolade, and has emerged as the undoubted leader in the northern region of the country.

The region as a whole is well-served by local airports, with some of them too close together to make true economic sense. It was a problem that was identified by the 1978 White Paper as having particular relevance to Manchester and Liverpool, and to Newcastle and Teesside.

The document saw no reason why the future development of either Newcastle or Teesside should be inhibited, but classified the former as a 'B category regional airport', and the latter as 'A airport', and Liverpool as 'C'. If it is inevitable that Liverpool should be heavily overshadowed, and continues to be a consistent loser, then the local council owners appear determined to continue with it, and small airlines have been happy to move in recently when the larger carriers restricted their operations.

According to forecasts by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for 1983-84, Manchester handling 5.1 million passengers will have a surplus £6.8m while Liverpool with 380,000 passengers will have a £2.9m deficit.

Newcastle is estimated to return a surplus of £1.1m, with 1.1 million passengers, and Teesside a £347,000 deficit with 339,000 passengers. All these airports serve communities that depend for their livelihood on large concentrations of commerce and industry, and their rate of future growth is inevitably bound up closely with the speed at which

these businesses emerge from the recession. The area as a whole is far enough away from the London air travel 'honeypot' to have an aviation life of its own, although high-speed train services, and the motorway network, and the recently-improved British Airways shuttle to Manchester, with the promise of modern airliners such as the Boeing 757 replacing obsolete Tridents, makes it increasingly easy for passengers, with the services of the airports in the south.

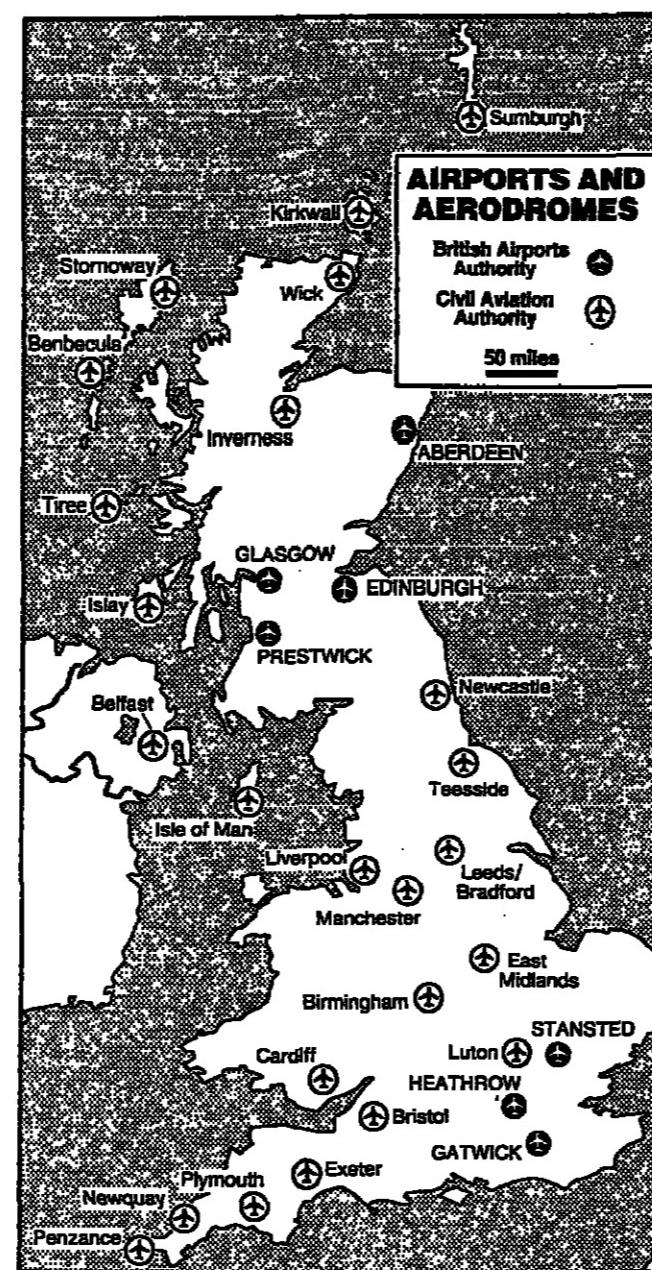
Big expansion plans going ahead

Almost without exception, the airports of the northern region have ambitious expansion plans. Humberside's opportunities were greatly enhanced with the opening, in 1981, of the Humber bridge; this doubled overnight the airport's catchment area. CIPFA estimates that in 1983-84 the number of passengers using the airport will increase by 4.5 per cent over the previous year, although still only reaching 70,000, and that it will have a deficit of £468,000.

Leeds/Bradford. CIPFA forecasts, will, with 426,000 passengers, an increase of 2.4 per cent, return a loss of £100,000. This would be a surprising decline from the £1,049,000 operating surplus achieved in 1982/83 for the three authorities who operate it - West Yorkshire County Council, Leeds City Council and Bradford City Council. As part of a big expansion programme, the main runway is being lengthened to 2,250 metres, lighting and navigational aids are being improved, and the first phase of extending the terminal building will be completed by the end of 1984.

Manchester, which is controlled by an airport authority committee of 20, split equally between the two owning local authorities, the City Council and the Greater Manchester Council, with Mr Gil Thompson as its chief executive, is investing £100m in a development programme to accommodate an estimated 12 million passengers a year in the 1990s. A big item within this massive total has been the £22m cost of rebuilding and extending the runway to 10,000ft, and the installation of what the airport claims to be the most-advanced runway lighting system in the world. The work was carried out over 18 months, largely at night, while flight operations continued. The runway is also fitted with a blind-landing system up to category 3B standard, enabling operations in the foggiest weather.

Other large projects which have either been begun, or are planned, include extensions to the passenger terminal, enlargement of the tax-free and duty-free areas, extension of the aircraft parking area, a second terminal and a loop into the airport from the inter-city railway line. The present passenger terminal has a capacity of 6.5 million passengers



OPERATIONAL COMPARISONS OF UK AIRPORTS

All Local Authority Airports with estimated operating income over £2 million in 1982/83

	Total Passengers (incl. Transit)	Expenditure	Income	Surplus Deficit	Surplus as a proportion of Income	Passengers per £1,000 of Expenditure
Manchester	000s	£000	£000	£000	%	
Luton	5,007	32,375	46,371	13,996	30.2	15.5
Birmingham	1,930	12,128	14,662	2,534	17.3	15.9
Newcastle	1,540	8,680	11,559	2,879	24.9	17.7
East Midlands	1,065	5,528	7,714	2,186	28.3	19.3
Leeds/Bradford	762	5,145	6,974	1,829	26.2	14.8
Bradford	400	1,815	2,592	777	30.0	22.0
Bristol	345	2,615	2,956	341	12.7	13.2
Cardiff	330	3,411	2,815	-596	-21.2	9.7
Liverpool	314	5,038	3,229	-1,809	-56.0	6.2
Teesside	291	2,639	2,341	-298	-12.7	11.0
Average	-	-	-	-	21.6	15.1

Source: CIPFA Financial Statistics - Local Authority Airports 1982/83 Estimates



Leeds/Bradford airport at Yeadon: the main runway is being lengthened and the terminal building extension will be completed by the end of 1984

Luton, flying into profit

The airports of the Midlands and East Anglia continue to have a lively existence of their own, in spite of the development in recent years of greatly-improved surface links between the communities which they serve and the main London airports.

Luton is the biggest of the group, handling about 1.8m passengers a year, the vast majority of them on package holiday flights to the beaches of the Mediterranean, or winter sports slopes. Run by the Luton Borough Council, it is into the second phase of a £10m development plan largely concentrated on the terminal buildings. An air-conditioned departure lounge, part of a new arrivals hall, a covered arrivals area, and offices for customs and excise, immigration, and health staff have already been handed over by the builders as part of phase two.

According to forecasts by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Luton airport will make a profit of around £1m during the 1983-84 financial year, although its fortunes are so closely tied up with those of the travel trade which, in turn, can be seriously affected by recessionary forces, the outcome will remain in doubt until the last minute.

First European Boeing 767 base

The airport will become, early in 1984, the base for the first European Boeing 767 wide-bodied airliners, Britannia Airways, the biggest British package-holiday airline, having chosen this type to augment its 737s.

Monarch, another British independent airline specializing in the 'bucket-and-spade' business, introduced the other new Boeing type, the 757, to Luton several months ago. But, although its speciality is package holiday flights, Luton is also an important centre for business aviation, with McAlpine basing its fleet of over 20 British Aerospace 125 jets and other executive types there.

However, all is not well. A Department of Trade grant totalling £100,000 which was intended to keep the Scillys airport open at St Mary's open for three years is almost gone. Mr Billy Mumford, the chairman of the island's council, has warned that about £125,000 a year is needed and negotiations are being conducted with the department to keep the airport open as a 'social service' for the islanders.

"If it closes," said Mr Mumford, "we would probably lose 50 per cent of our tourist trade and that would destroy the island's economy."

Guernsey subsidizes its airport without qualms. It handles 500,000 passengers a year and is far too important for the island's economy for its future ever to be in doubt, but the authorities there must look with considerable envy at Jersey where the airport handles an astonishing 1.45m passengers a year and produces a profit of over £300,000.

The airport was one of Jersey's undertakings which, in 1971, was designated to become a self-sufficient trading area. Costs and efficiency are constantly examined.

Craig Seton

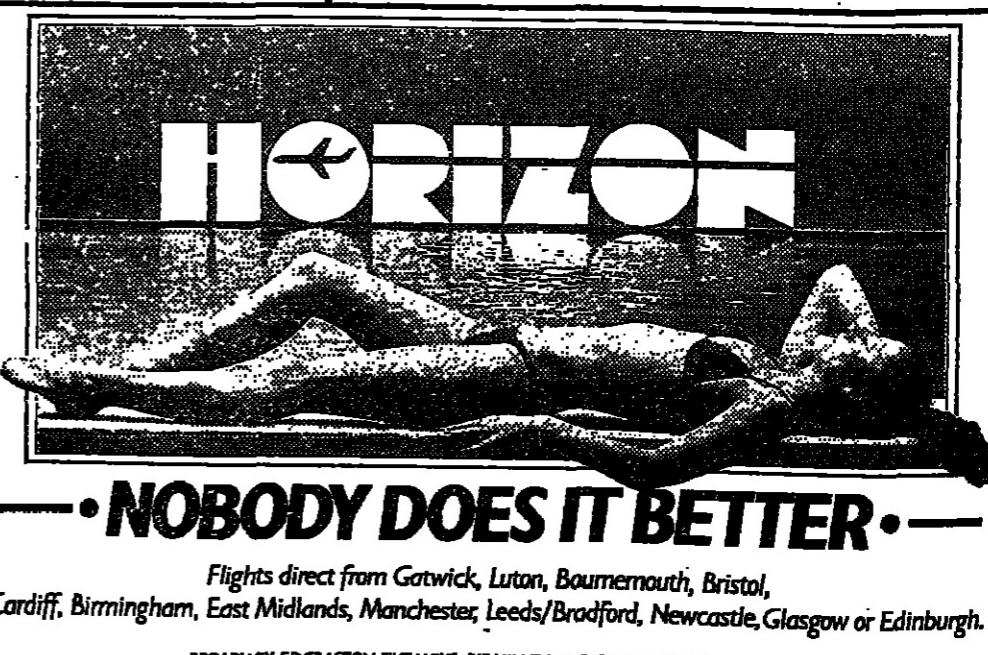
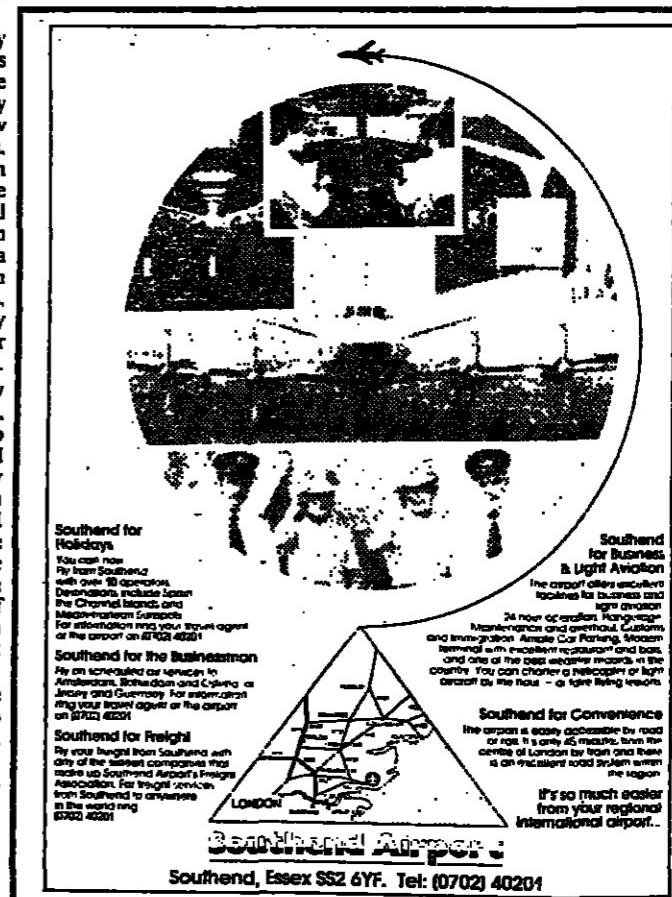
Birmingham Executive Airways, flying Jetstream 31 turbo-prop on business routes into Europe dropped by British Airways during its recent severe retrenchment.

The current financial year, according to CIPFA estimates, it will make a marginal surplus this year.

Southend, owned by the local borough council, has traditionally specialized in cross-Channel links, and is expected to handle 107,000 passengers this year, seven per cent up on 1982-83. CIPFA forecasts that it will lose £460,000 during the current year.

Like all the airports in the region, it lies under the shadow of Stansted. A decision to proceed with the development of that airport to take 15m passengers a year, as is wanted by the British Airports Authority, would have a significant impact on their future, and would inevitably inhibit their long-term growth prospects.

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Scotland:

Oil has put Aberdeen's heliport among the world's busiest, busier even than Houston

The oil industry has transformed airports in northern Scotland. Aberdeen, which was transferred to the British Airports Authority in 1975 on the threshold of the North Sea boom, underwent a multi-million pound expansion. A new terminal capable of handling more than one million passengers a year was completed and the old terminal adapted to handle British Caledonian helicopters and North Scottish helicopters. With the existing British Airways and Bristow operations, the Aberdeen heliport now ranks among the busiest in the world, busier even than Houston, Texas.

Last year, the number of helicopter passengers increased by 40 per cent - more than twice the number of three years ago. Overall, Aberdeen handled a 7 per cent increase in passengers and made a trading profit of £591,000.

Oil and related industry has also been behind the growth of international traffic into Aberdeen in addition to the heavy level of domestic flights. Even though the oil industry has moved from busy development into the steadier production phase, air traffic is likely to remain heavy into the next century.

Against that dramatic success story must be set the sad miscalculations at Sumburgh in the Shetlands where the civil Aviation Authority invested £30m in a new terminal to handle business at the beginning of the oil boom.

Sumburgh is no longer thronged with technicians and roustabouts transferring from fixed-wing aircraft to helicopter on their way to the oilfields in the East Shetland basin. Its business died with the introduction of more powerful helicopters able to fly from Aberdeen directly to the oil platforms and with the emergence of Scatsta airport near Sullom Voe in north Shetland as a centre for fixed-wing traffic.

Operators complained about the high landing charges Sumburgh levied to help pay for the new terminal. The figures of Sumburgh's decline make gloomy reading. The number of fixed-wing public aircraft using Sumburgh in June was nearly 50 per cent down from the previous year and helicopters traffic showed a similar contraction. Staff at the terminal have been reduced in numbers and all operations concentrated on the Wils Ness terminal, which is still far too large for the traffic.

Unlikely to mothball the terminal

It is unlikely however that the CAA will cut its losses and mothball the splendid London terminal. If it did so a £10.8m loan from the European Investment Bank would become immediately repayable. The CAA accounts for last year showed that income and profit fell by almost £2m at Sumburgh and the expectation for a heavy deficit.

The CAA has the most difficult job among the Scottish airport authorities since none of its eight airports, with the exception of Sumburgh, was in profit last year although in June the passenger returns showed a 7 per cent increase. Kirkwall in the Orkney Islands had a 26 per cent increase but there is concern in the Highlands about possible privatisation of CAA airports.

In central Scotland there is a superabundance of excellent airports, notably Glasgow and Edinburgh for European and domestic traffic and Prestwick for long-haul jets, principally to and from North America.

The British Airports Authority is determined to protect Prestwick's transatlantic flights, despite the objections in Edinburgh and Glasgow that more routes be opened to those cities. Last year Edinburgh handled 1.2 million passengers, a quarter million fewer than the airport was designed for, giving its boosters another argument why more overseas flights should land there.

Overseas visitors to the Edinburgh Festival consider it odd to land at Prestwick on the west coast of Scotland and travel by coach or train for more than an hour, passing two perfectly equipped international airports en route.

A BAA spokesman admitted that in a perfect world that Scotland would probably be best served by a central international

airport but the fact was that the social repercussions of Prestwick closing down were unthinkable and the waste of a major facility not economically acceptable. A number of initiatives were being taken to promote Prestwick as the main Scottish international airport and there is a heavy subsidy for feeder air services to Aberdeen and Belfast.

"Edinburgh and Glasgow were both developed separately and we have to make the best of what we have got," the BAA say. There was little sense in building a central Scottish airport now and duplicating facilities less than one hour apart at a cost of £50m. Apart from that, the landscape did not favour such a development. Much of the wind-swept high ground separating the two cities often has its head in the clouds. Instead, the BAA will continue to develop Prestwick cargo and passenger traffic.

Ronald Faux

Islands:

Going by air is a way of life

The Orkneys people board an aircraft with less concern than they would climb into a car. Along the broad spread of islands the air link centred on Kirkwall and operated by Loganair acts as a lifeline, a constant reassurance and a convenient transport that reduces a sea voyage of several hours to a flight lasting a few minutes.

The Orkneys are perfect for such an operation, a fact that is immediately apparent as the twin-engine Islander aircraft lifts its nose from the runway at Kirkwall and presents to passengers a panorama of the small islands to the north. They are largely flat, intensively farmed with fields that overlap their edges. The sea lanes dividing them are often wide and marked with the white froth of tide rips or submerged reefs. They are scattered so that the air routes to them run like the spokes of a bicycle wheel from the hub of Kirkwall.

The islands of Westray and Papa Westray are so close together that the flight between is shorter than the length of Heathrow's longest runway - it is claimed as the shortest scheduled flight in the world. The airport on the island of Eday, near the Bay of London, is on a narrow grass strip grazed by sheep.

The island aircraft hop low from island to island, slipping over the rooftops of the quiet, isolated communities to land on fields from which grazing animals have been temporarily cleared. An airport has a windsock shelter, fire appliance and white stones marking the runways to comply with licence regulations. One small Scottish airport rebelled at the cost of a conventional fire appliance and so manufactured one themselves. Someone said it looked like the dog in Dr Who and so the symbol K9 was painted on its side. The department inspector solemnly wrote "K9" in his book and the apparatus has served loyally ever since.

A welcome from the islanders

In the Orkneys crofters and doctors, peripatetic teachers and midwives, stretcher cases and civil servants, bird watchers and veterinary surgeons and a host of others who are part of the quiet world of the islands all travel by air. Last year Loganair carried 17,000 people in the Orkneys alone. The service ensures a quick delivery of mail and a same-day delivery of cases to hospital.

A similar service operates in Shetland linking Tingwall with the largest outer islands. Other islands are served by charter flights paid for by the Shetland Islands Council including most of the Out Skerries where the

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Loganair aircraft is welcomed by the 50 inhabitants who are saved an uncomfortable three-hour voyage by fishing boat or indirect ferry into Lerwick. In the Out Skerries the aircraft is also greeted on the short sheep-clipped landing strip by streaking indignation from a thousand or more Arctic terns.

The air service in Shetland is less viable since the Shetland Islands Council developed a roll-on, roll-off ferry service as a road bridge between the mainland and the islands of Yell, Unst, Fetlar and Whalsay. Air travel saves time but is more expensive than the ferry, even though the Loganair operation in Shetland is underpinned by a council contract to provide pollution surveillance flights over the sea approaches to the Sullom Voe oil terminal.

Many oil industry related flights are centred on Scatsta near the oil terminal and with a lot of general traffic electing to go by road and ferry there is less chance for the inter-island service to break even. Even so the company's daily flight by Twin Otter from Tingwall to Edinburgh is extremely popular.

In the Western Isles, Loganair maintains a daily air link between Stornaway, Benbecula, and when the tide permits Barra on the southern tip of the island. The air

flight down the eastern coasts ranks surely as one of the most spectacular in Britain over the deeply seaworn shore and small outcropping islands.

At Barra the aircraft dips its wings towards the Cockle Strand, a stretch of flawless beach. The air

traffic controller there is supposed to tell pilots: "You can come down now, the water is only half way up the gulls' legs," but such unscientific measurement of tidal conditions is firmly denied by the pilots who touch down on the beach in a cloud of salt spray.

Four West Coast airports are operated by the Civil Aviation Authority. Stornaway, Benbecula, Tiree and Islay all showed a downward trend in activity last year because of the recession.

Even so they are an important part of island life. It is the greatest

comfort for islanders to know that in an emergency they could be in a hospital bed sometimes faster than they could be on the mainland. The Air Ambulance service has just celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in Scotland during which time 20,000 casu-

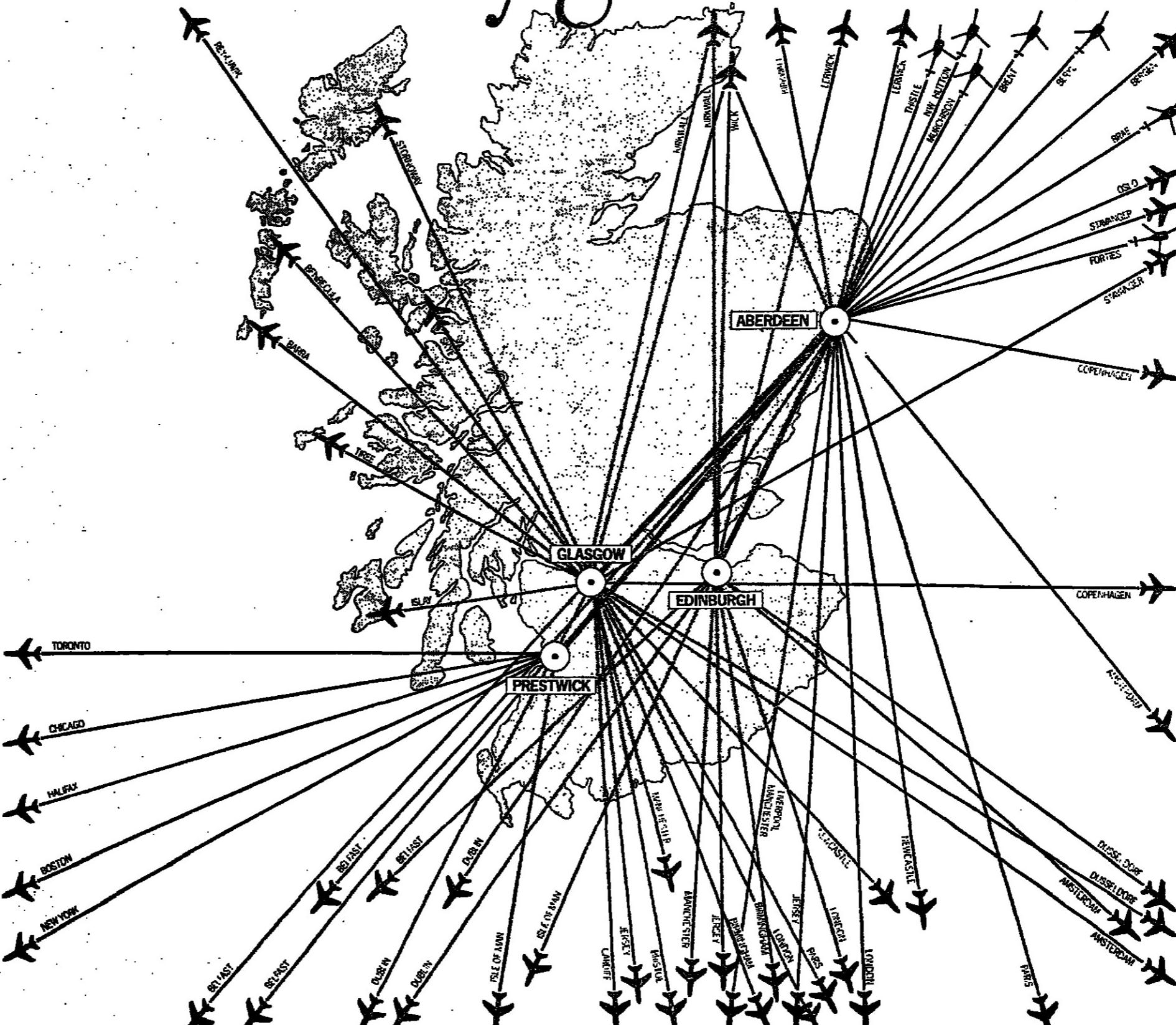
ties have been flown to treatment. It is a sign of the increased use of the service and range of the aircraft that 10,000 of those casualties have been carried in the last ten years.

RF



Walking casually to a plane at Wick: there were more than 6,000 flights in and out during 1982/3

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Scottish
Airports

THE ARTS

Caroline Moorehead meets Shiva Naipaul, whose novel *A Hot Country* is published this week.

Earning experience to elevate into fiction

Photograph of Shiva Naipaul by Suresh Kandola

"Every day", reflects a character in Shiva Naipaul's new novel, *A Hot Country*, "I have to redefine myself." It is, admits Naipaul, himself talking. Trinidadian, a descendant of Hindus who migrated to the West Indies at the turn of the century, Naipaul returns often, both in conversation and writing, to the theme of belonging.

"I'm afflicted by that sense of uncertainty", he says, "I don't have a social status to fall back on. I'm an ambiguous person, a fluid sort of being. My life has been defined by three poles that don't add up. Trinidad, where I was born; India, which provided me with religion and a name; and England. I exist in a very vulnerable relationship to all three." Being born in Trinidad, he adds, gave him a permanent feeling of being a minority.

Naipaul is now in his late thirties, a tall, somewhat corpulent man with round face and round glasses and the courteous, slightly grave manner of someone older. He gives an impression of self-sufficiency, of purposefulness. He has just moved from Maida Vale to a first-floor flat in Belize Park in north London. Workmen are moving plugs and neat piles of books piled up against the walls. He is apologetic, a little uneasy as if the routine of things had been upsettingly disrupted.

He came from Trinidad on a scholarship to Oxford in 1964, at the age of 18, the younger son in a family of five girls and two boys. The older son, Vidiadhar, better known as V. S. Naipaul, was already here and writing. Their father, who had worked on the *Trinidad Guardian* and written several short stories, had died when Shiva was seven. The younger boy was to read philosophy and psychology. "The going-abroad was part of the ritual of growing-up. There was no question of doing anything else. I travelled by ship: the scene on the docks, the farewells, the gathering of aunts, the new suits. It was all part of the rite."

Friends who met him then recall a slender and timid young man shattered



by an incident in Notting Hill Gate when a lorry driver spat at him. "I arrived with adolescent rapture", he says. "Most of my notions were bookish. I remember being very afraid. The first night I stayed in a room in the British Council: I had never been in a room like that on my own. I felt hungry but I wondered how to use the restaurant. There was a lot of alarm in my excitement."

At Oxford he read Chinese; the behavioural psychology of the 1960s baffled him and he wanted "the cheap

thrill of trying to tackle Confucius in the original". It was a frivolous choice, not part of a grander scheme. Just before leaving university he began to write a story that turned two years later and after many metamorphoses into a warmly praised first novel, *Fireflies*. Meanwhile, he had married.

As we talk, the phone rings. It is his brother, "to console me for not being on the Booker Prize short list". (V.S. Naipaul won it a few years ago with *In a Free State*.) Both brothers made their

names as novelists; both travel and write about the places they see; both are preoccupied with problems of identity, the confusing ties of culture and values; both write with irony and pessimism; both have collected an array of literary prizes.

The similarities are so enormous: has Shiva felt overshadowed? (V.S. Naipaul is 13 years older.) "It's no sense has it made it easier for me. But I have done what I wanted to. There is nothing else to be said." He laughs, to make the words sound less censorious.

After *Fireflies* and a second novel, *The Chip-Chip Gatherers*, Shiva Naipaul turned to non-fiction, although he insists that he regards both as one body of work, different only in that non-fiction "continues to perform the great service of widening and deepening my experiences" which later may or may not emerge in fiction. He is careful to distinguish his own writing from the "new journalism" of mainly American writers like Tom Wolfe, arguing that whereas Wolfe makes the narrator the central feature, creating situations in which to dramatise himself, he is more passive, more a subjective reporter of mood.

"Handling the self, the seeing, experiencing 'I', is one of the most difficult things writer can do. The person isn't even or balanced; but then we don't live in an objective world." Naipaul talks as he writes, with often unusual choice of word, thoughts fluently marshalled into sequence. "One only gradually becomes a writer. You have to teach yourself each book: there is no such thing as a writer's skill, naturally deployed."

At the end of the year, Naipaul is going to Australia, to spend five or six months travelling, starting in South-East Asia, and with no clear idea of what kind of book will result. His wife and nine-year-old son, who goes to school in Hampstead, will stay in London. He has never wanted to go back to Trinidad and says there is nothing there to feed or keep him. "In many ways it would have been a kind of death to go back. London has room for the oddity I have become."

It was trying to live in the United States, however, first on the West Coast and later in Connecticut, that taught him that he did not want to live anywhere but England. "It's familiar," he says. "I'm accustomed to it. But I don't believe in roots. I will go on living my peculiar life, always oblique to the larger society, in it but not of it. It's impossible for me to have roots. I don't know what soil to put them down in. But I don't search for them either. I'm not an avast."

Television Time bravely spent

Some courage was involved in ITV's decision to show Brian Moser's trilogy *Frontier*, which follows the cocaine trail from Bolivia and Amazonia to its arrival in America where, despite government efforts, \$25 billion of the stuff is imported annually to be taxed at smart-set parties and to offset the enmiu of wood.

Two hour-long films were shown last night and a third, followed by a profile of Mr Moser on Channel 4, will be shown tonight. That is three hours and 45 minutes, but time well spent, and more courage was needed from Mr Moser, who was shot at and threatened and whose crew endured many vicissitudes to bring this graphic story to the screen for Central.

We began last night in Colombia with a Mr Elisco who runs a jungle laboratory where he processes the leaf. Despite primitive laboratory conditions, sporadic police raids and gun battles, he produces cocaine to a quality that made a scientist examining the result in pristine conditions in Miami exclaim "You can't help wondering where he learnt his chemistry".

Mr Elisco, who gathered rubber until it proved profitless, had earlier explained that poverty had been his incentive and that a few pesos for his old age his ambition. Dealers pay \$17 a gram in the jungle; they market it in America at \$400 on the streets.

Dennis Hackett

London theatre

Gas and Candles Stratford East

An old couple with little but death to look forward to, nothing to eat and the power off, stage a hoaxed siege to get a bit of food and attention: that is the starting point for David Henry Wilson's sadening little farce. They never saved a penny and the Majestic Cinema they gave their working lives to (as projectionist, she as usherette) has gone. "We did an honest day's work and look where it got us." That line must raise a round of applause some nights.

But, after beginning desolately with a teatless, sugarless, breadless breakfast (which younger members of the audience, clutching their second or third pint of the evening, found hilarious), the working-out is farcical. Having dialled 999 for the police, they have to impersonate IRA gunmen demanding the release of some Irish-sounding prisoner. So Frank opens the window a crack and requests the liberation of Daniel O'Connell and a chauffeur-driven getaway car in a deafening Scots accent.

Most pathetically of all, they are not looking to the end. Fortunately the author is. Their inevitable surrender brings on an unexpectedly bullying, conceited police chief (Jim Dunk) to encounter Frank's angry indictment of a society that needs a drama to make an effort. Is that no joke.

Philip Hickey's direction finds plenty of light and shade in the long dialogues. They tax the players' memories, but Mr Francis's bitterness has a perfect fit in Miss Hare's mischievous zest, which never lets you forget how much she loves him and how well she knows how to show it.

Anthony Masters

Put It On Your Head Almeida

The Théâtre de Complicité enjoys teasing its audience but, thankfully, without the aggressive tone so often involved in that word "participation". From the start, when toy crabs on elastic strings are dangled from the balcony to people sitting below, the mood is playful and friendly.

The four members of the company, former students of the French mime artist Jacques Lecoq, use minimal props. An undulating length of rope becomes the edge of the sea, with a few carefully placed shells. The evening builds up into a Jacques Tati-like fantasy about behaviour on the beach.

A spinner tries to indulge in some modest sunbathing and struggles to remove her tights behind a deckchair, which collapses. A nervous, Bible-reading man removes his spectacles to avoid witnessing her embarrassment. Their sense of

• The sixth annual Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival takes place from November 17 to 23. Elliott Carter and Hans Werner Henze are taking part in the festival, as well as such performing groups as the Fires of London, the Nash Ensemble and the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. The Yorkshire Arts Association Young Composers Competition will be held in conjunction with the festival, the winning pieces being performed in concerts on November 21.

Clare Colvin

Tate Gallery

Milbank London SW1

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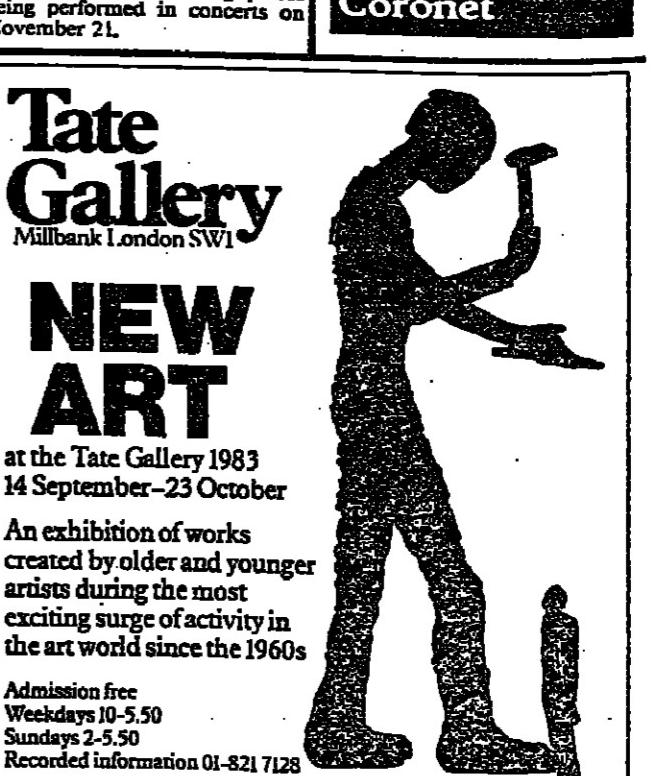
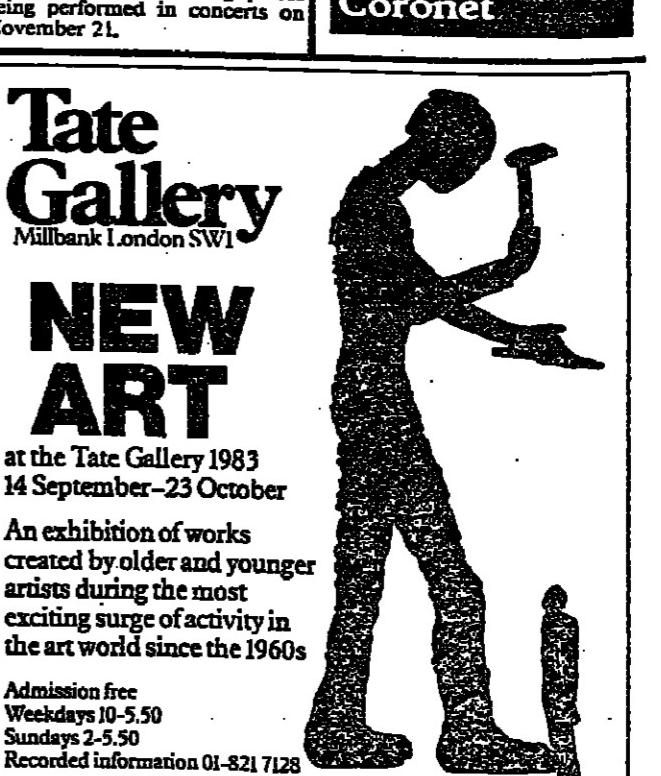
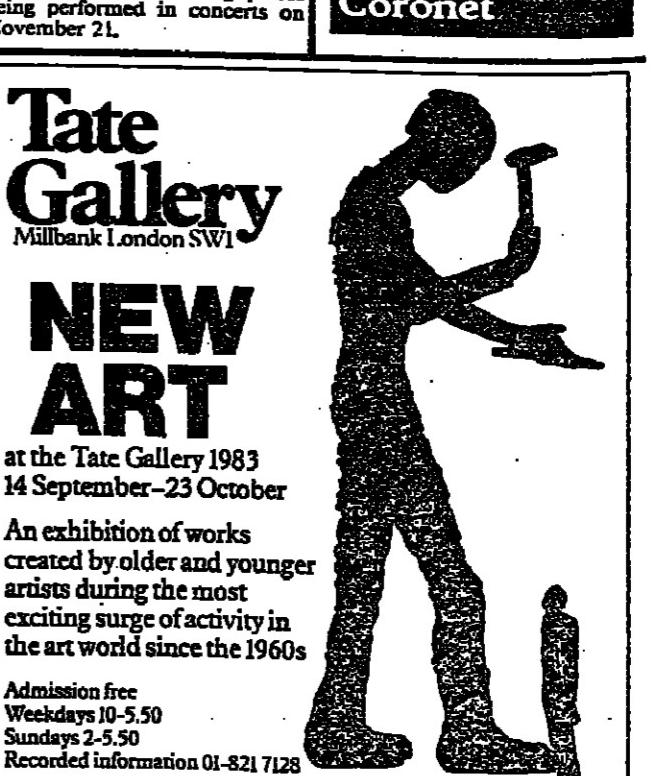
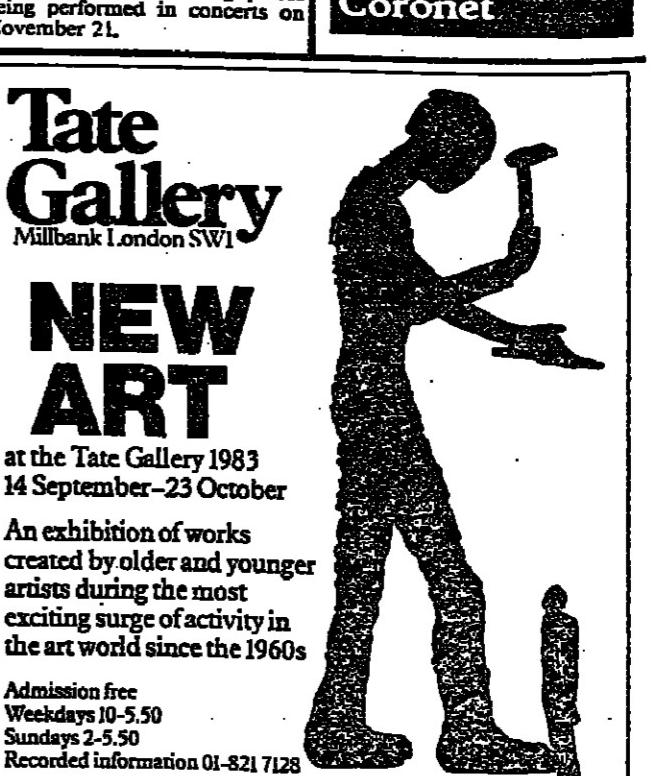
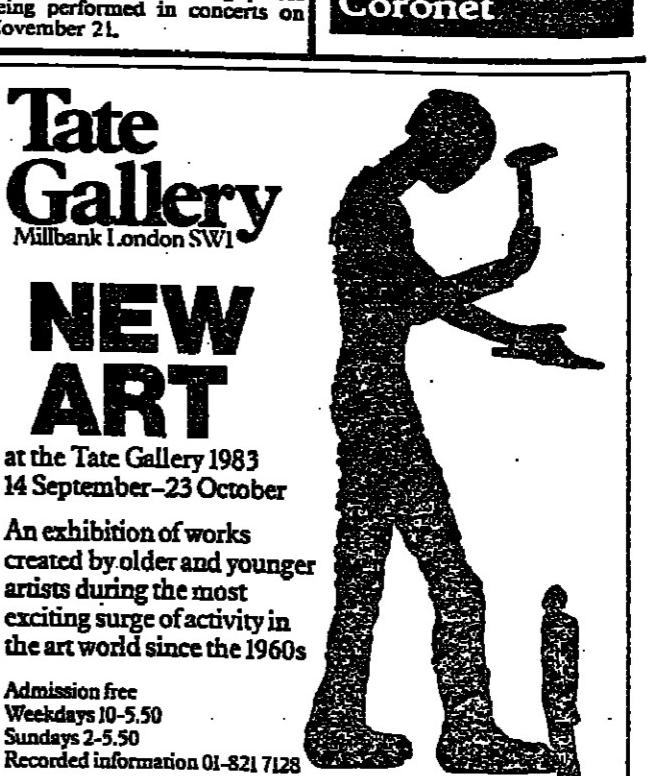
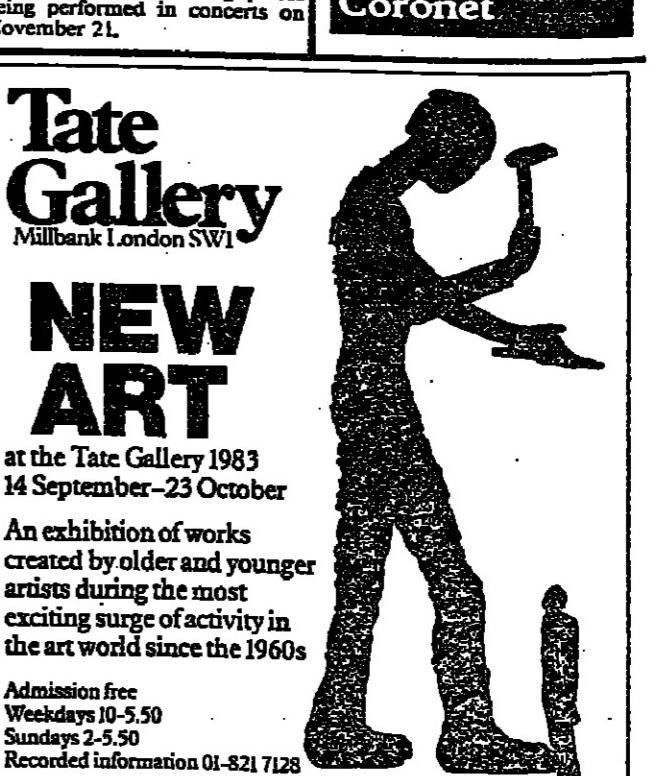
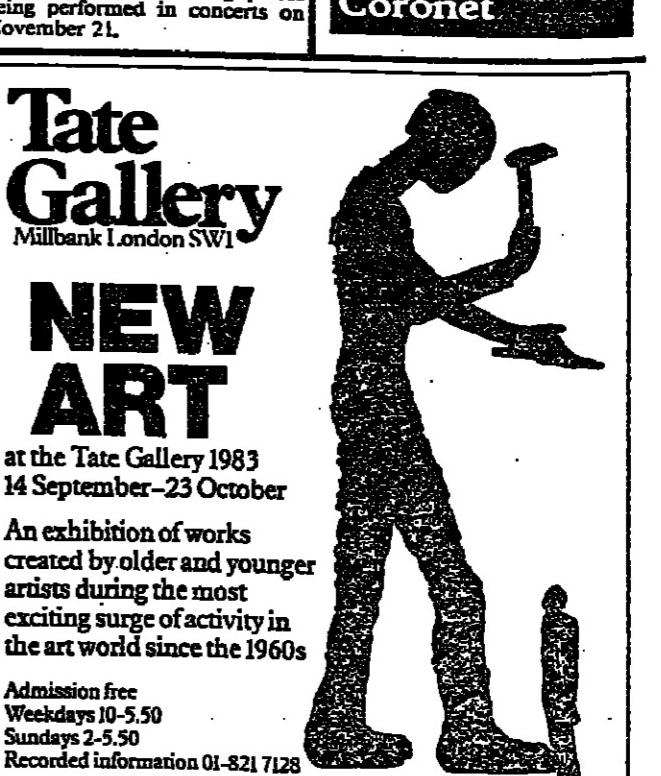
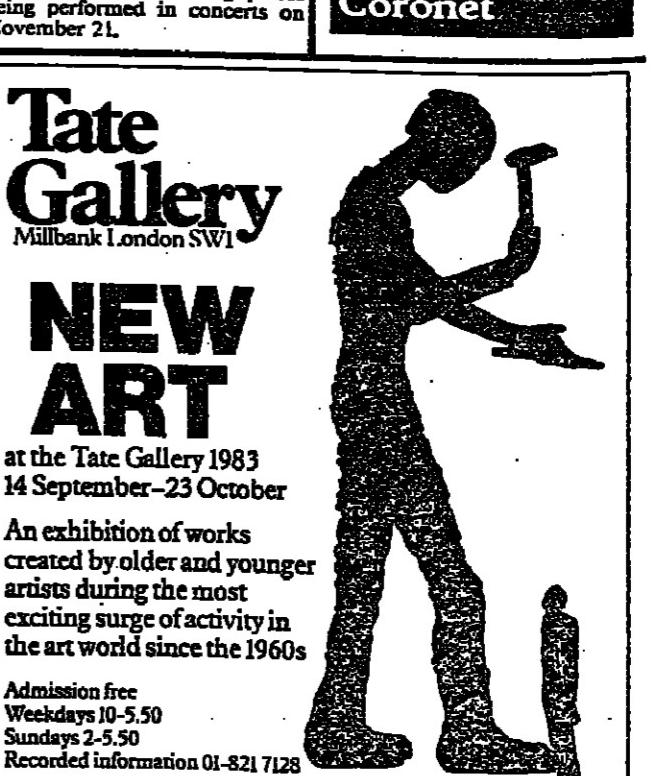
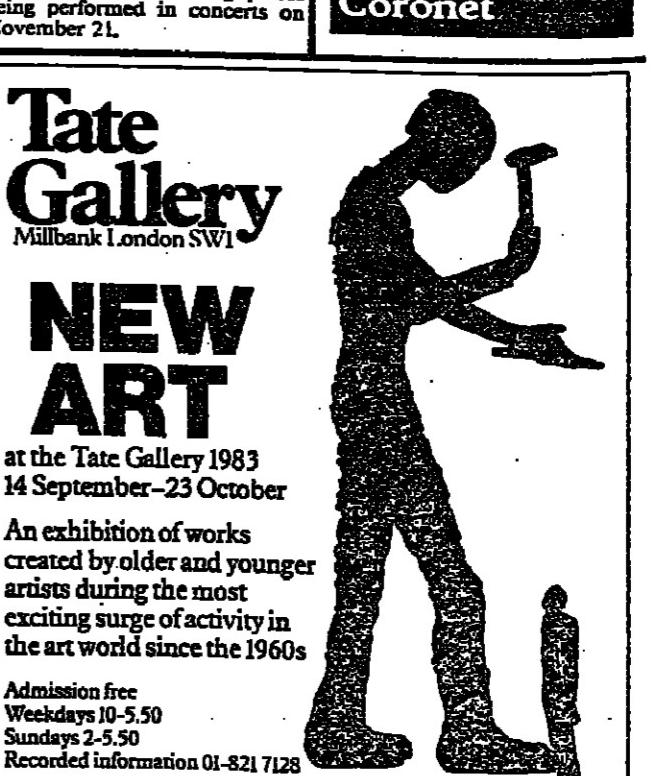
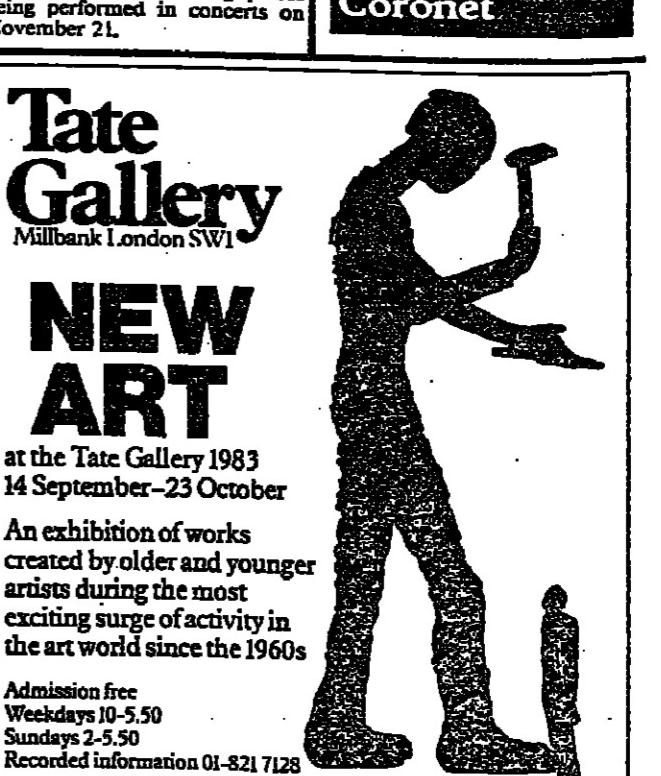
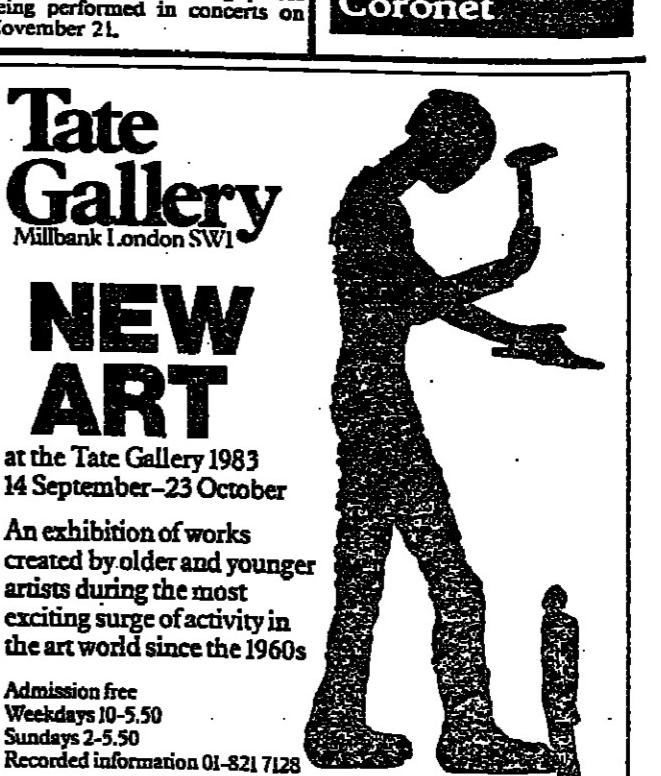
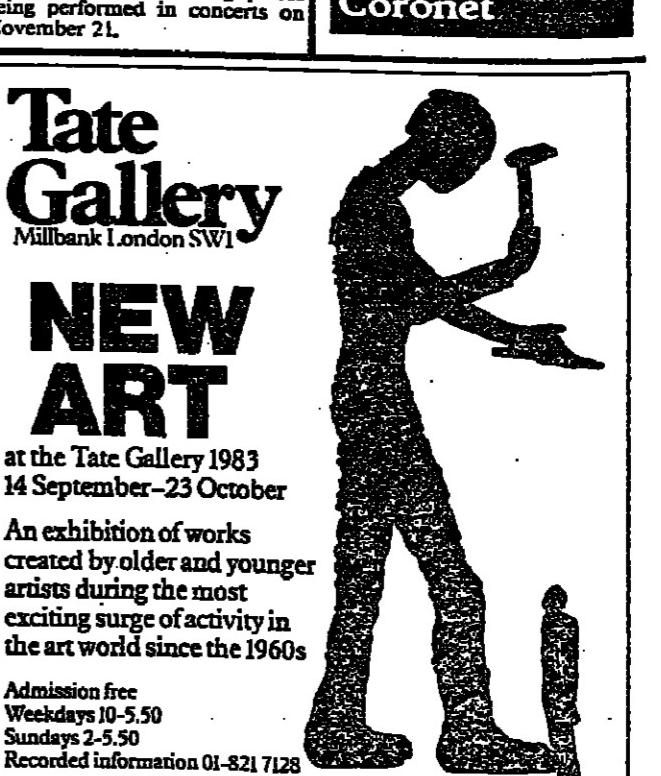
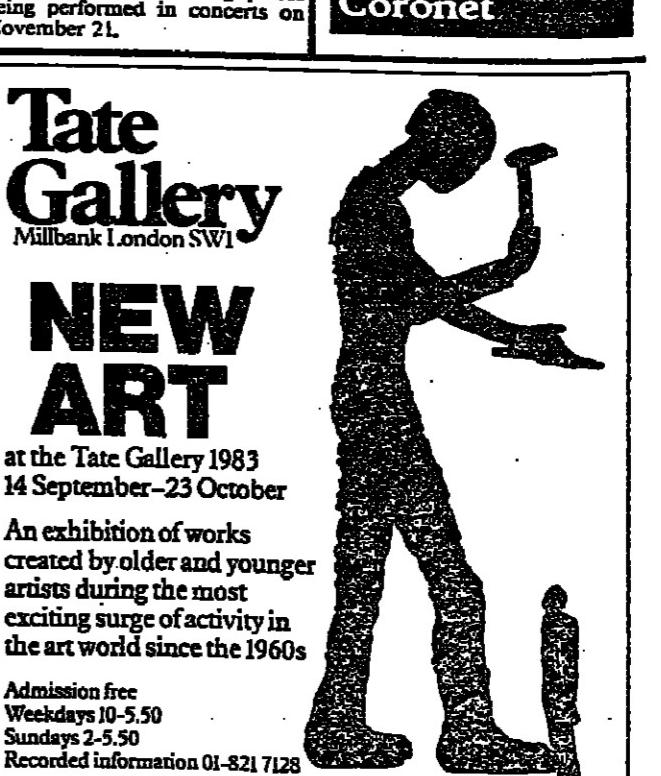
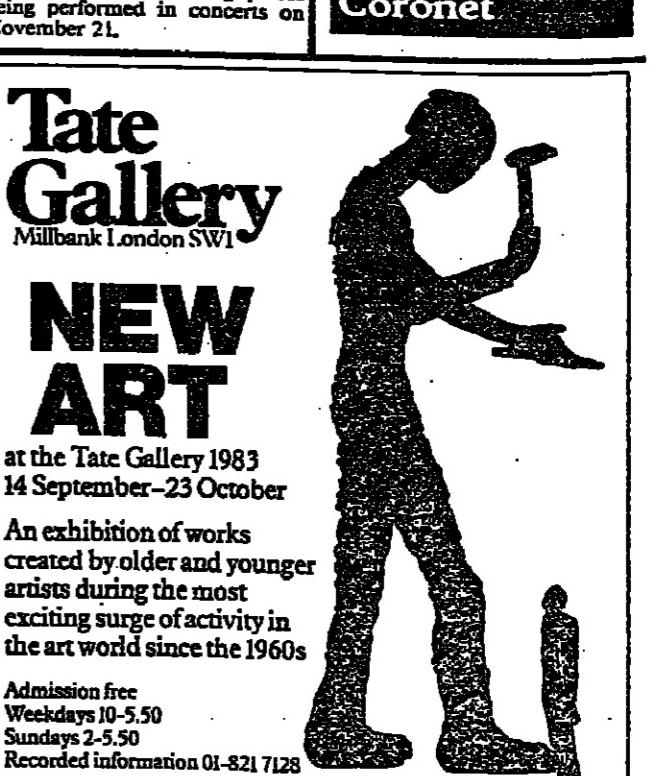
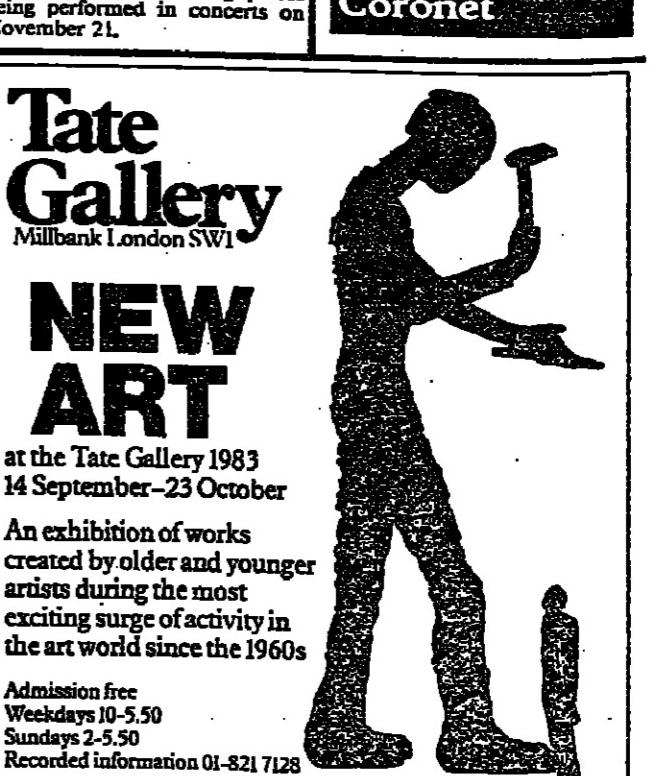
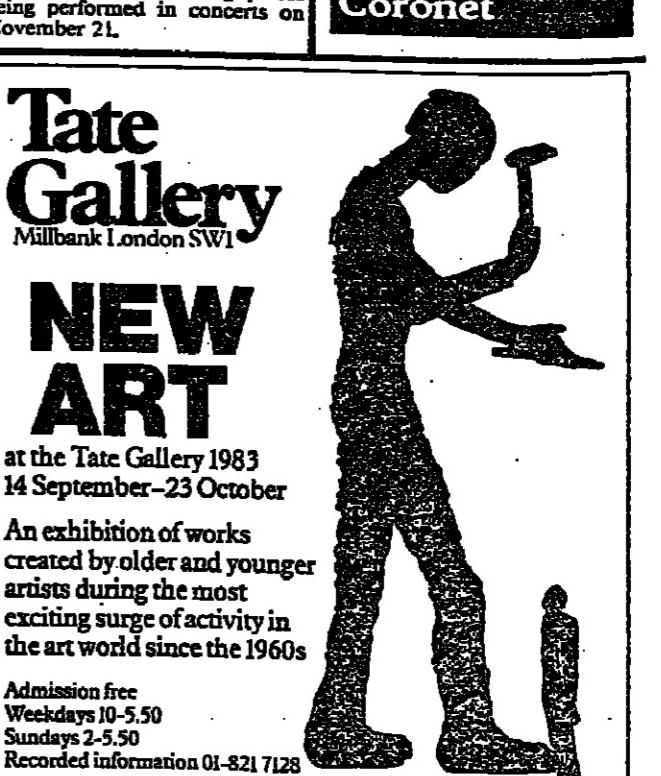
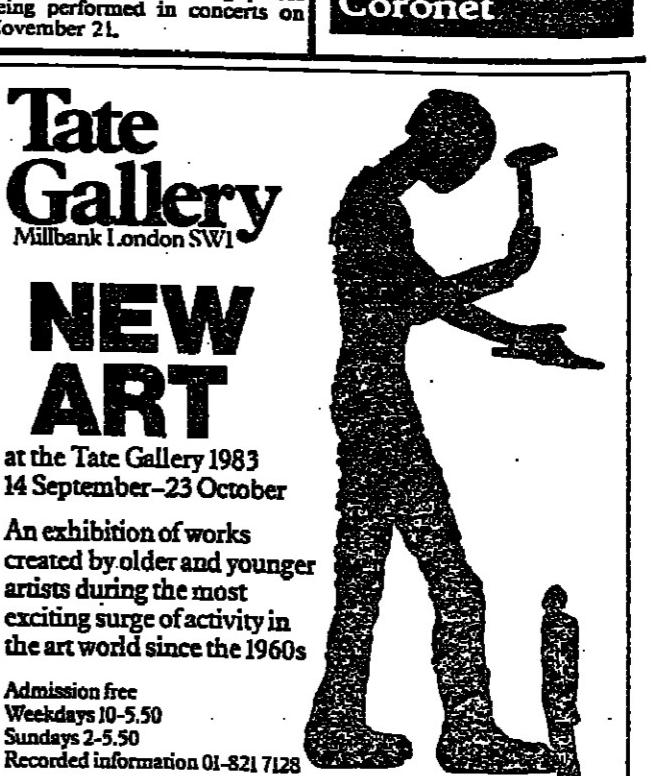
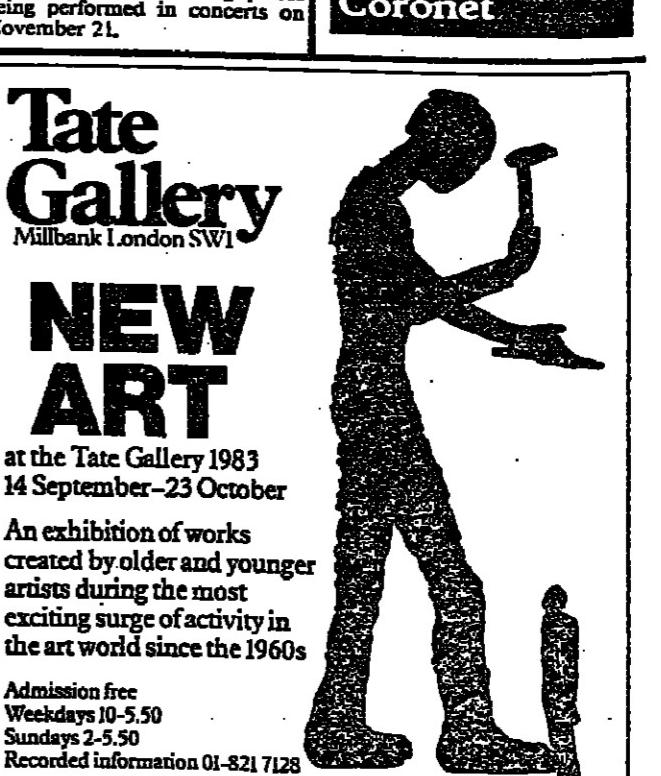
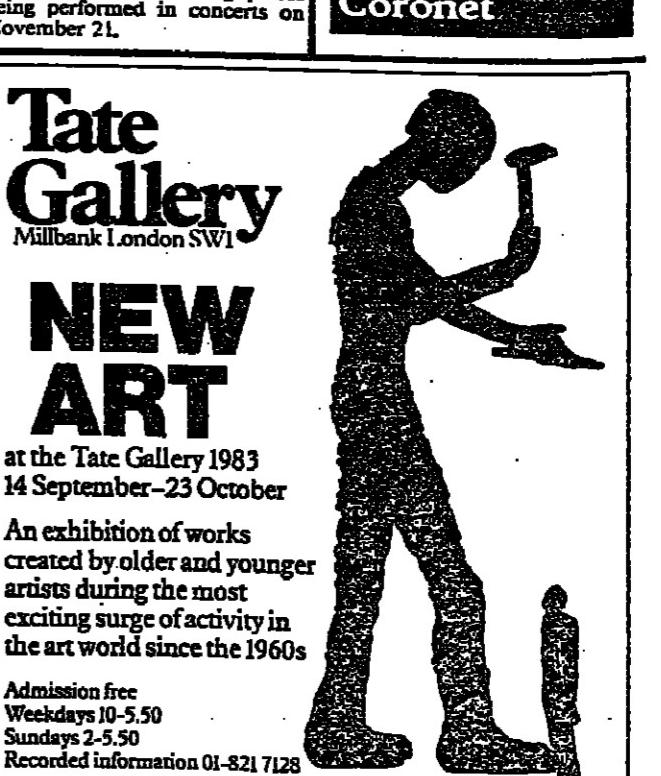
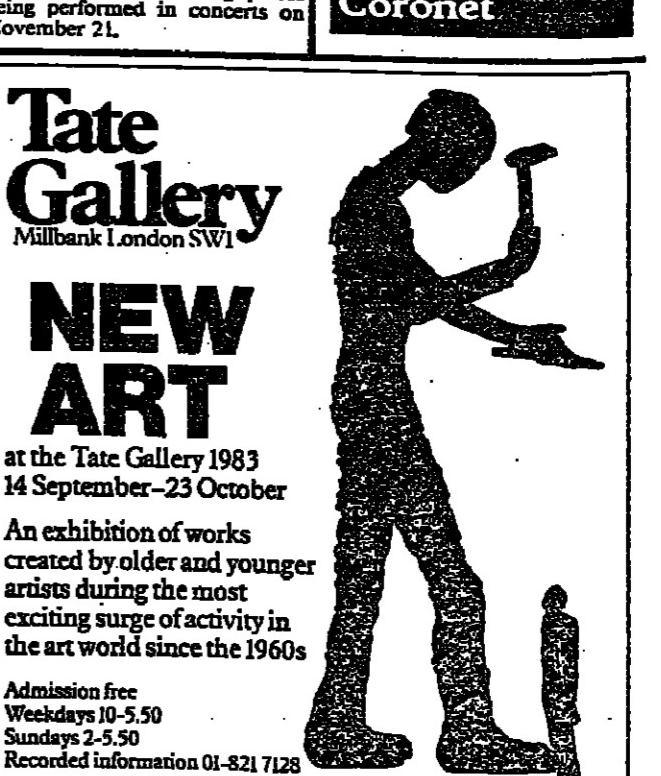
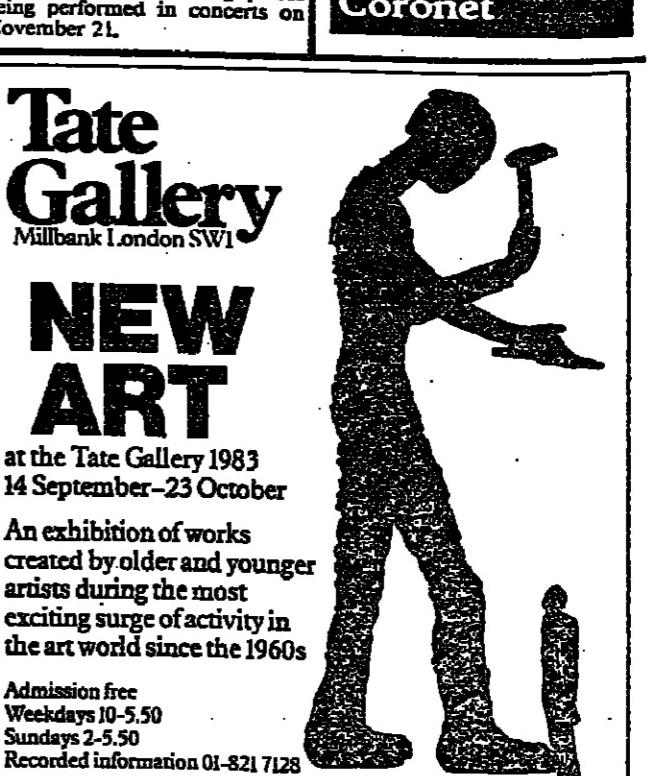
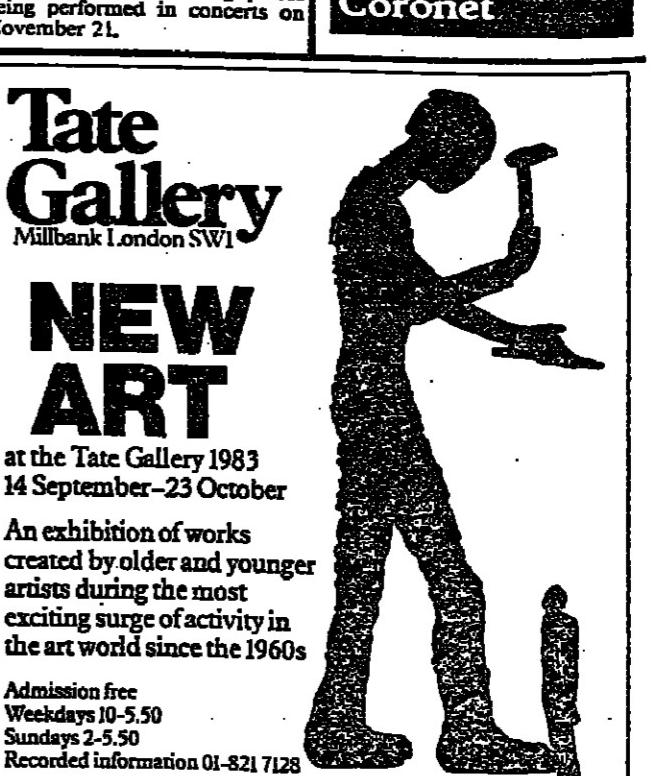
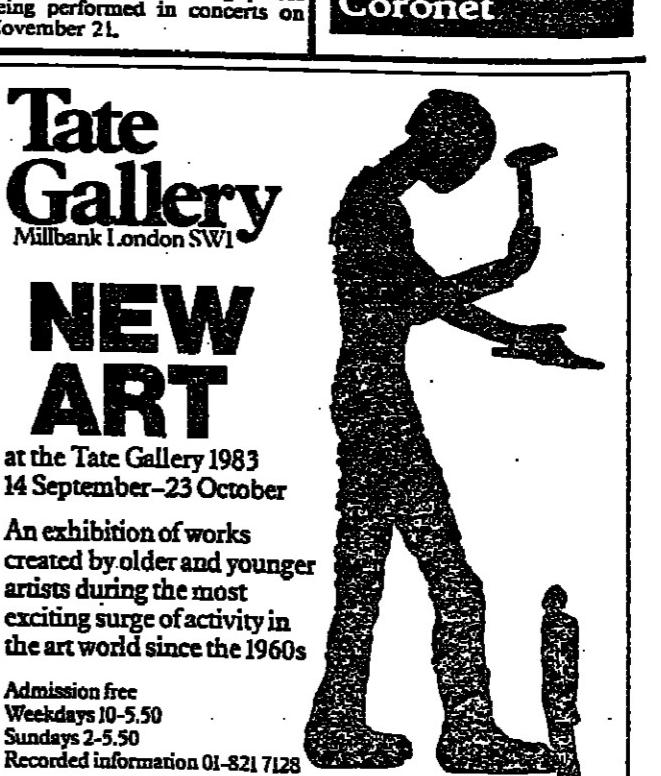
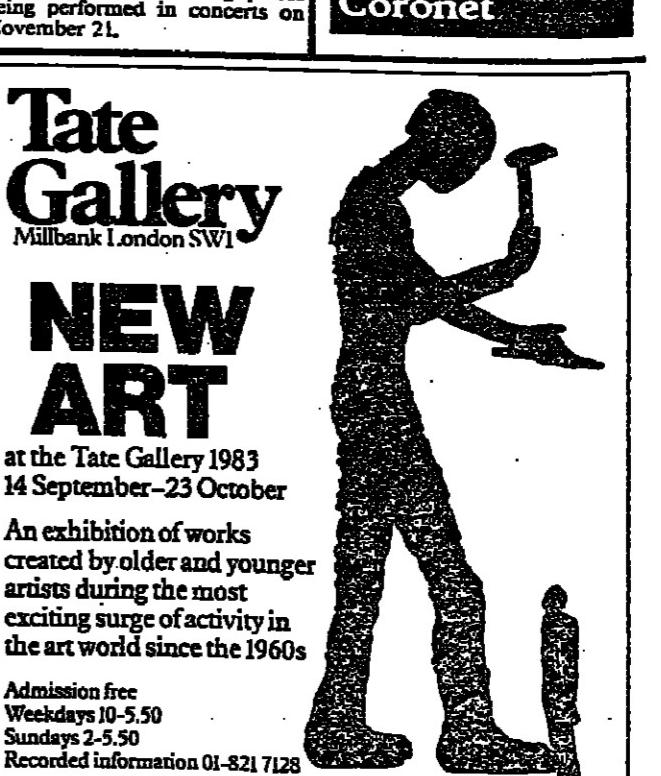
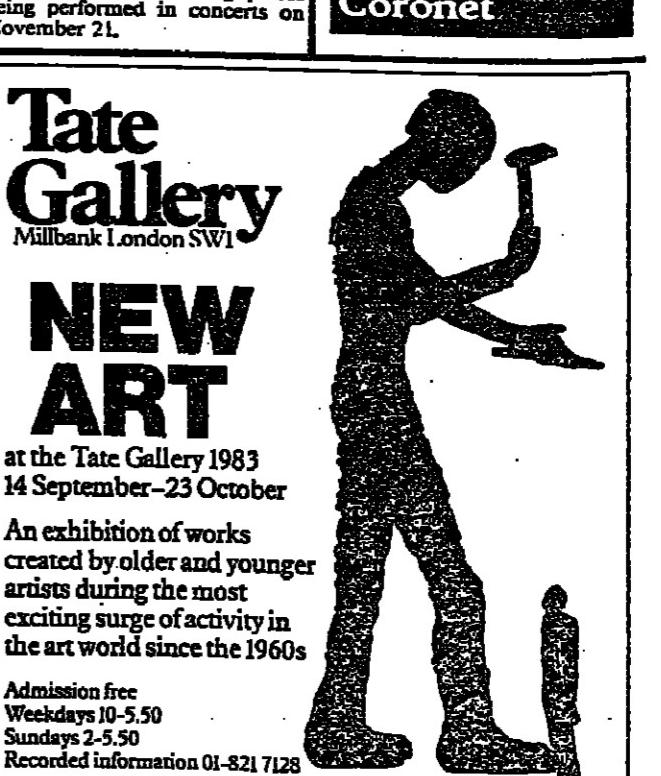
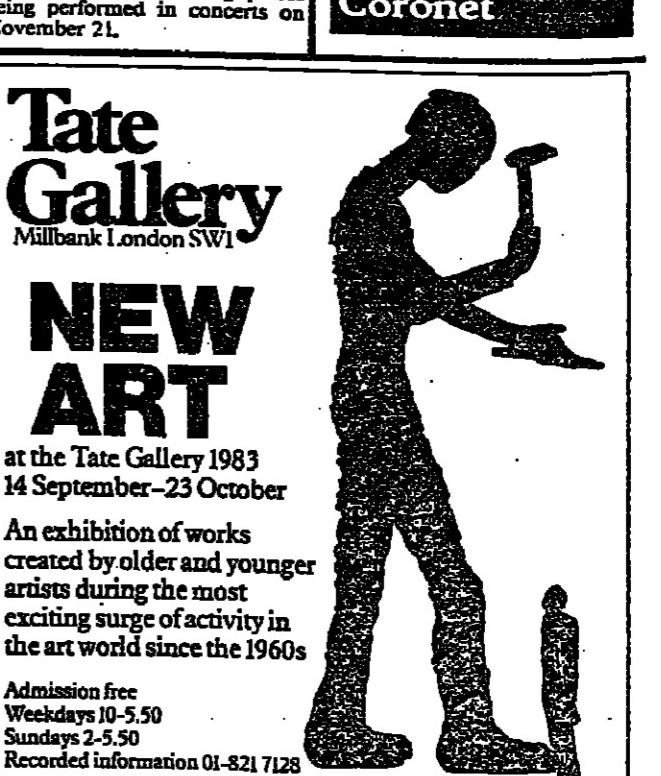
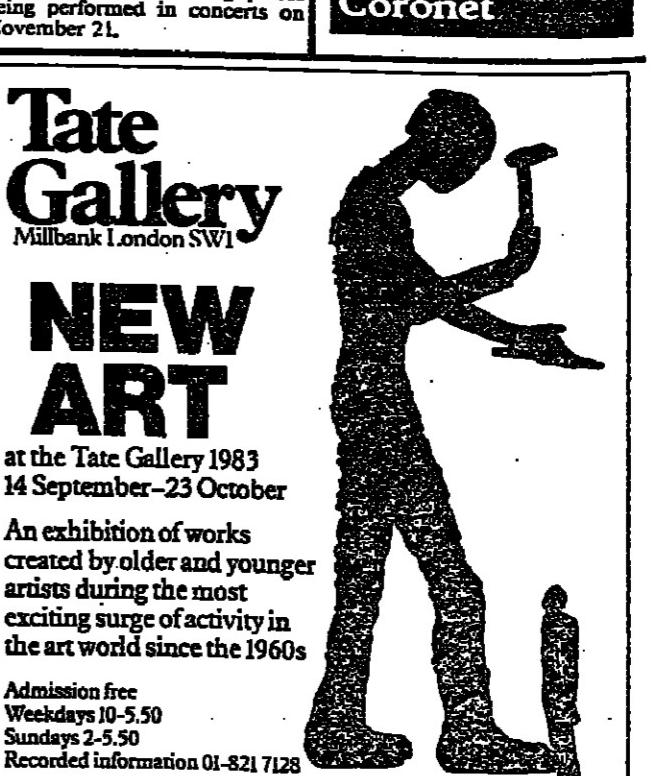
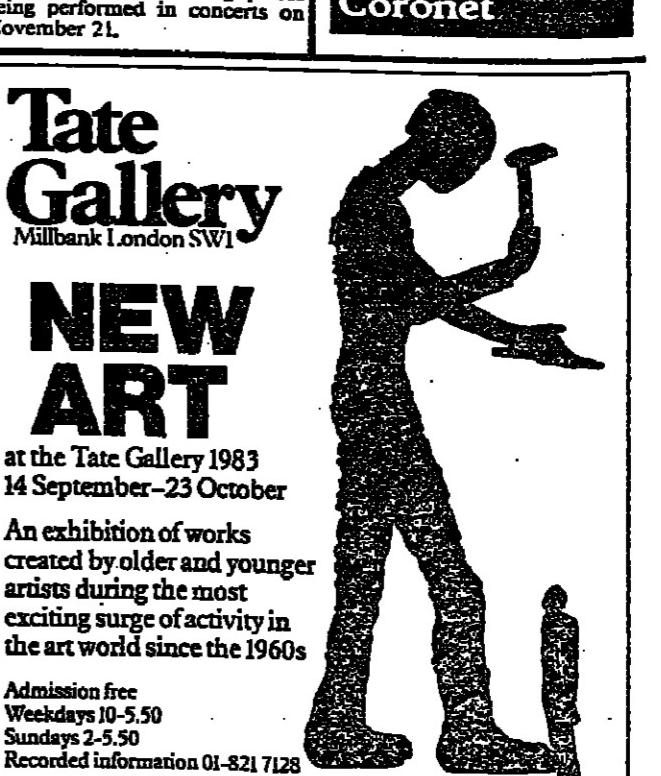
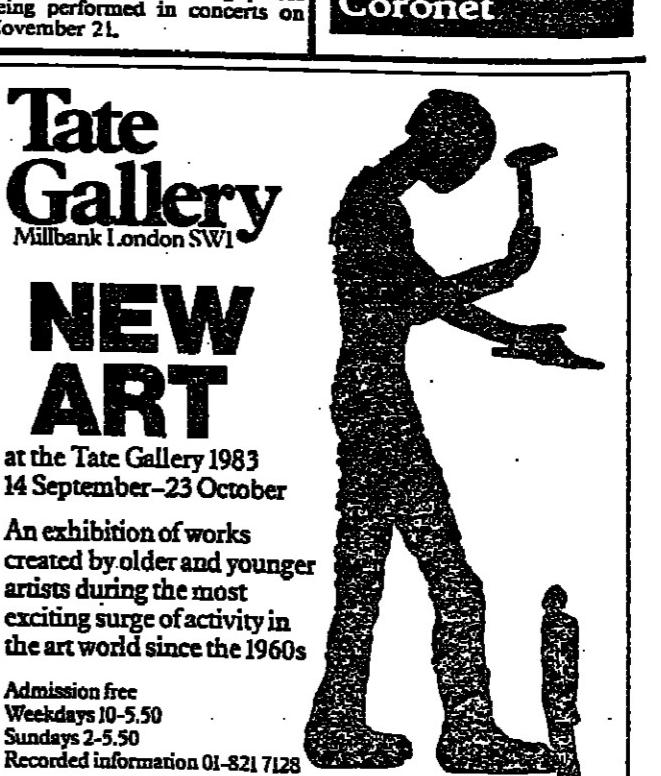
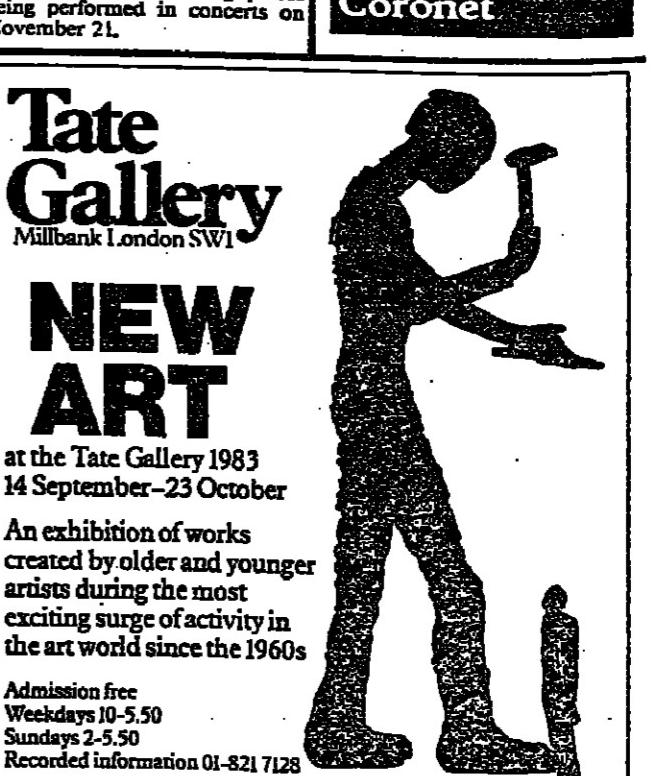
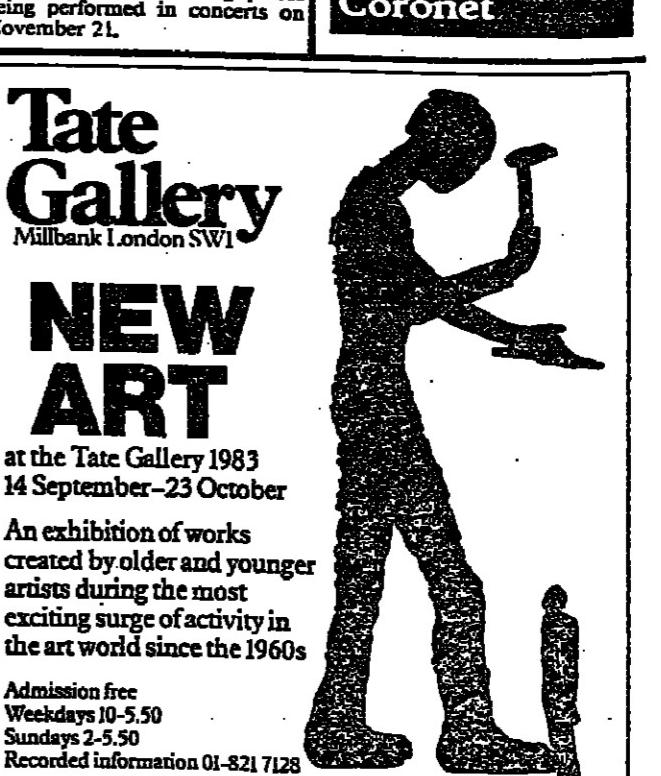
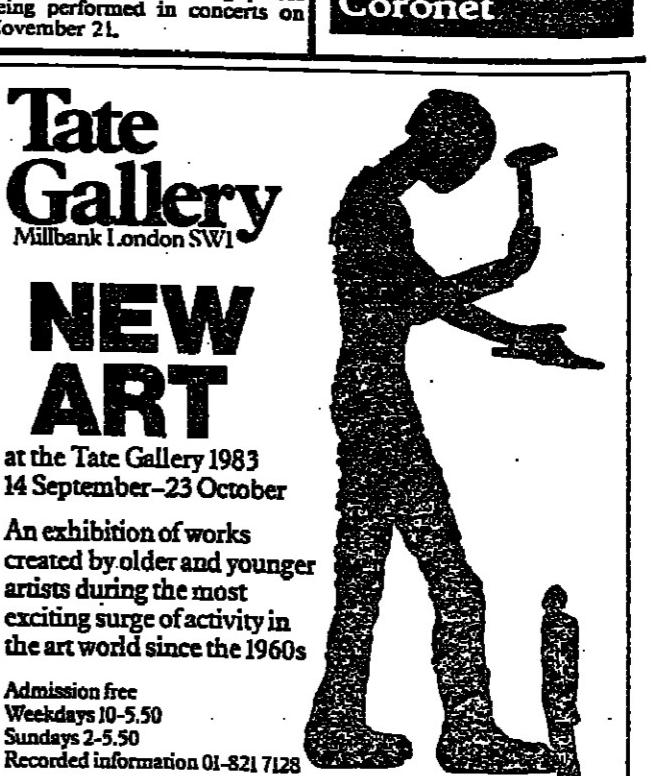
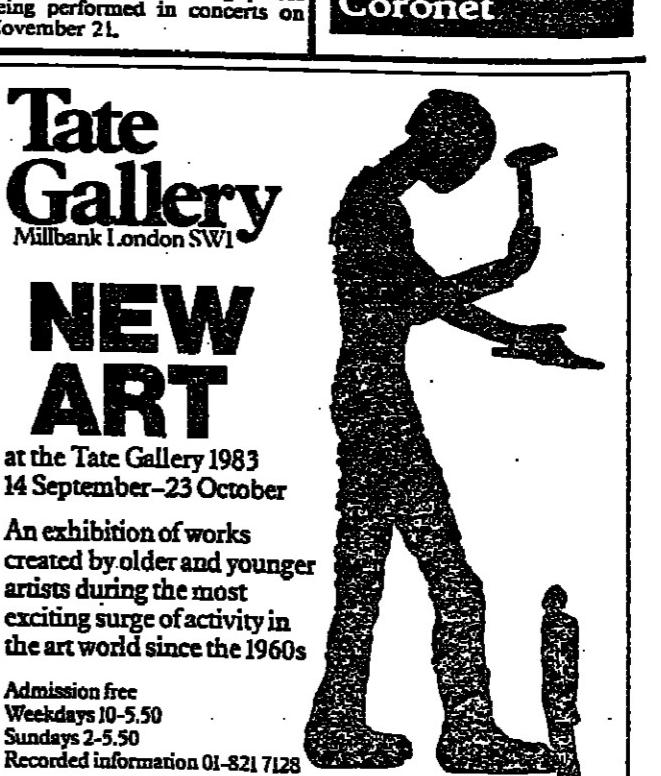
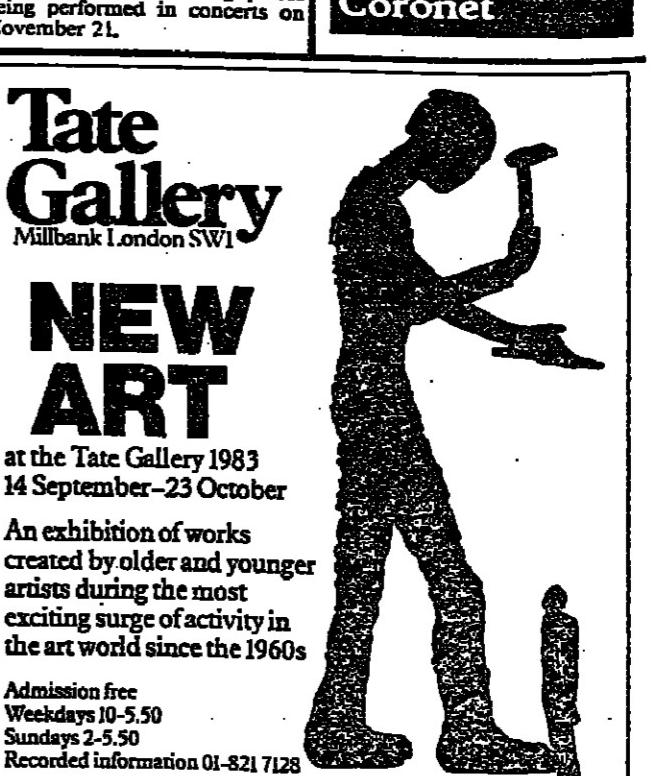
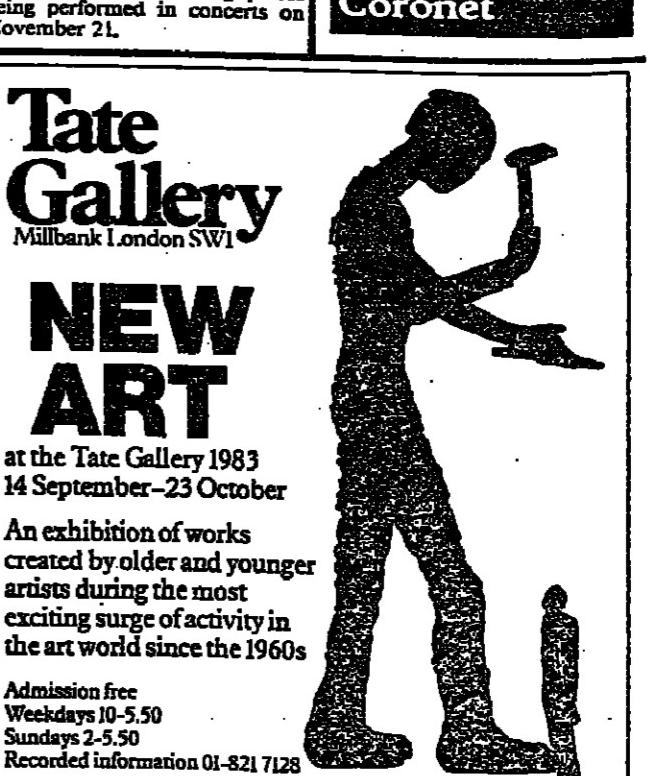
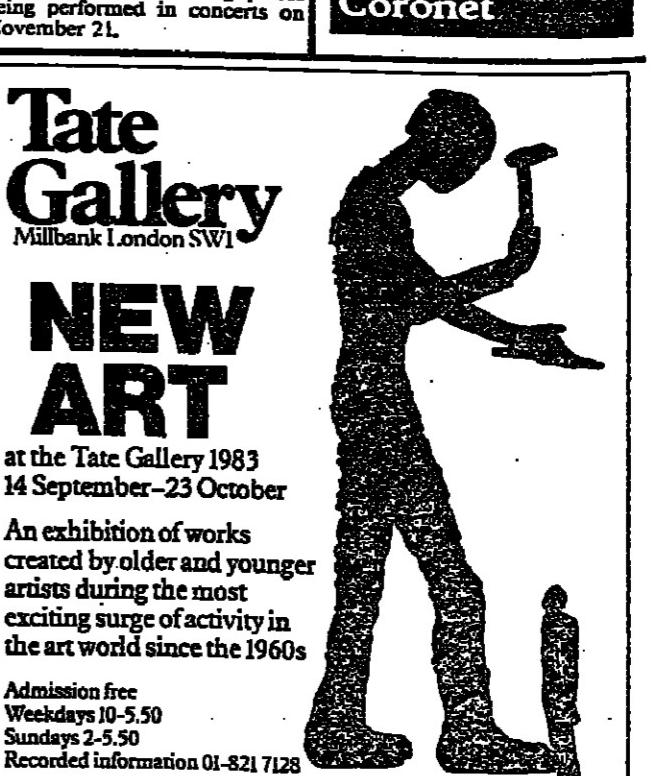
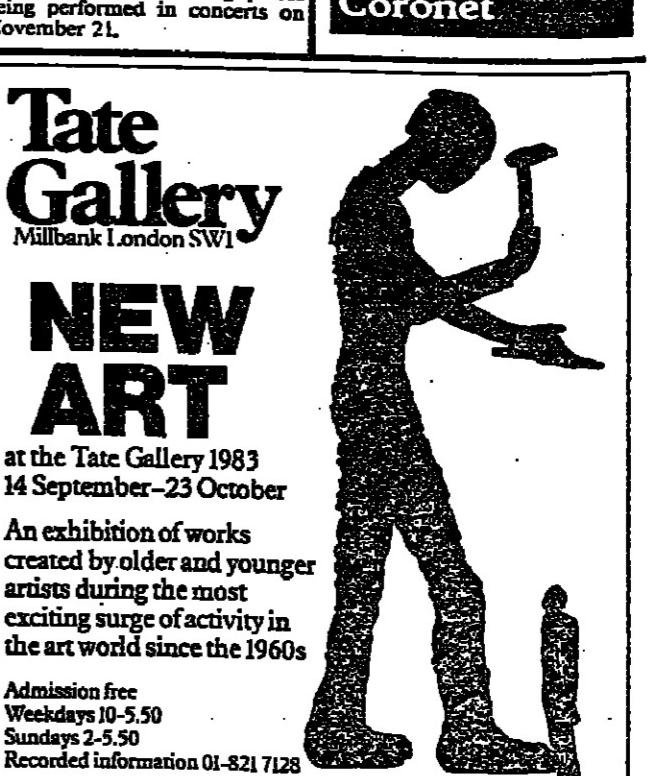
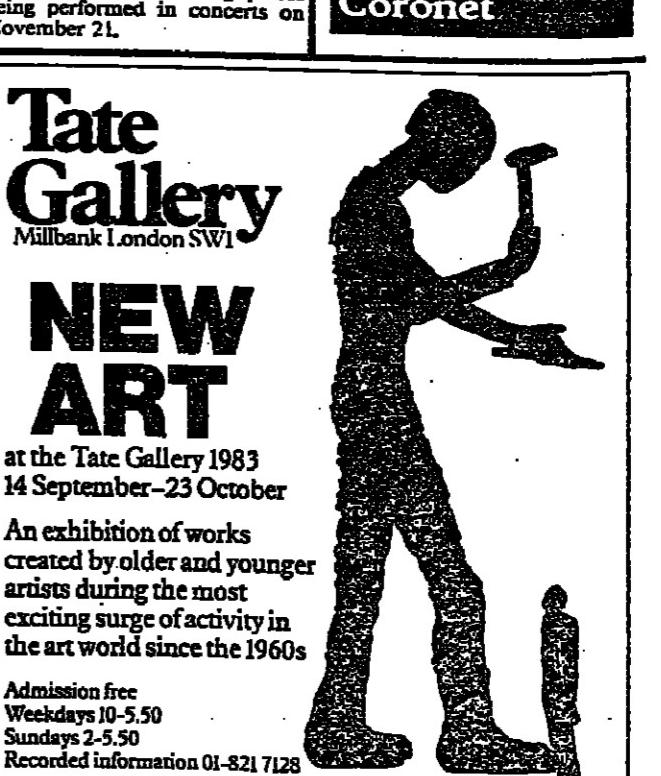
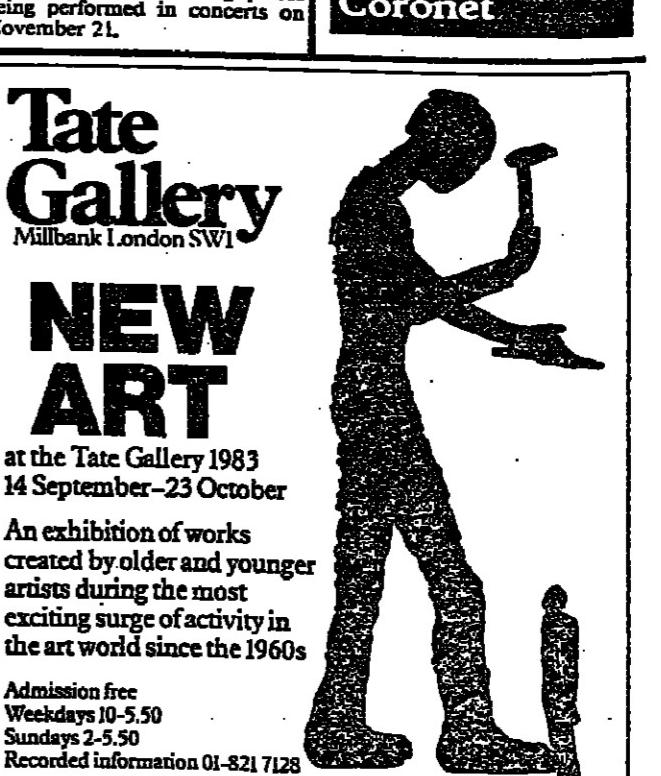
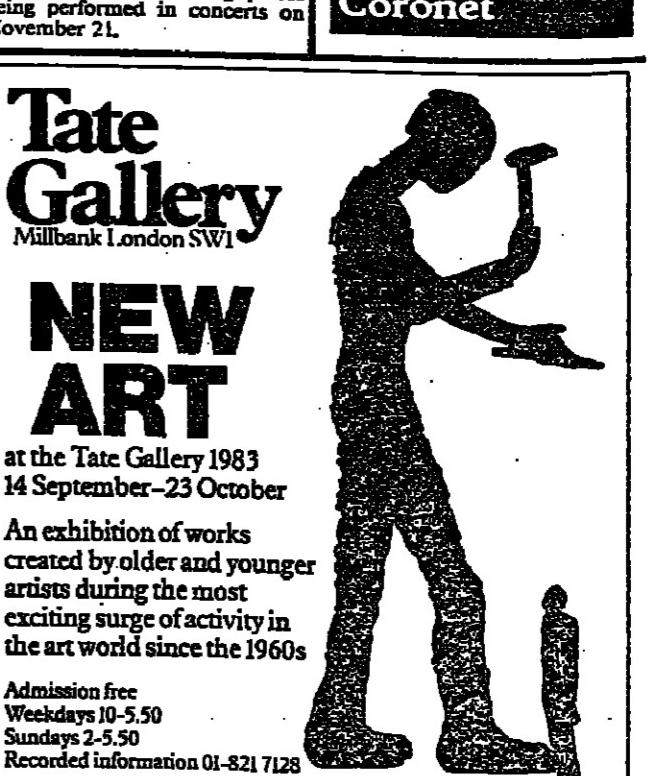
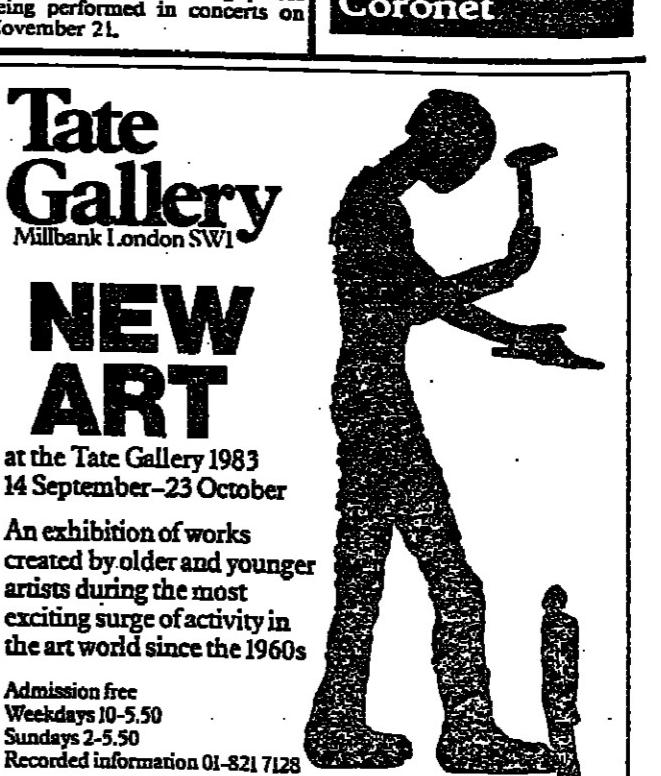
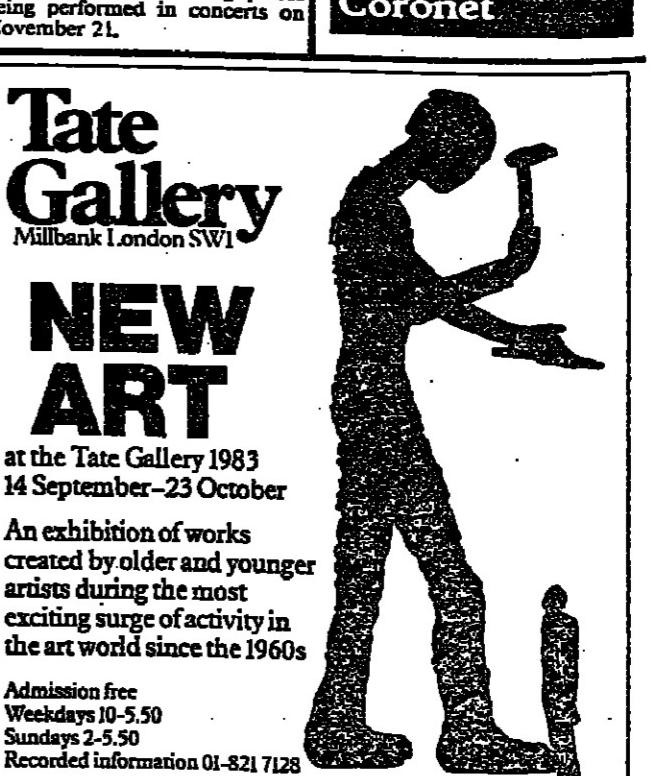
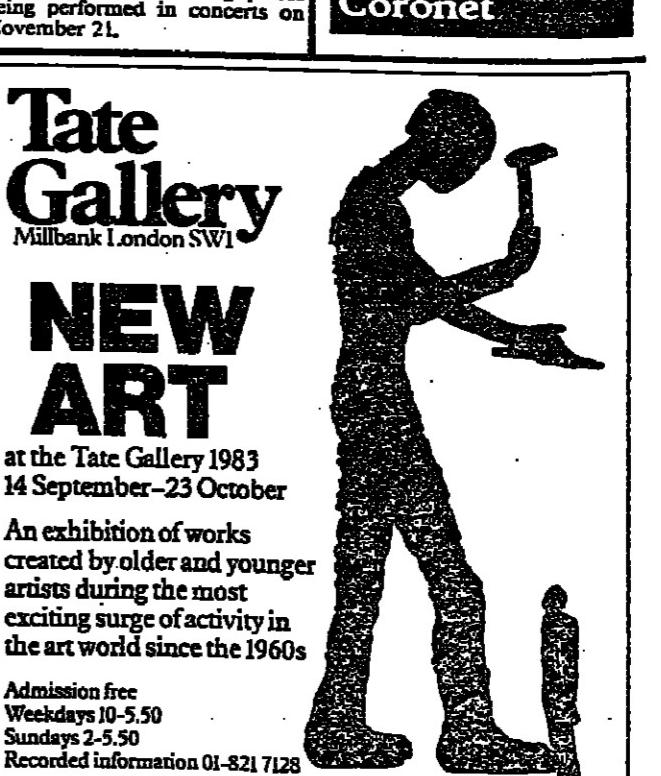
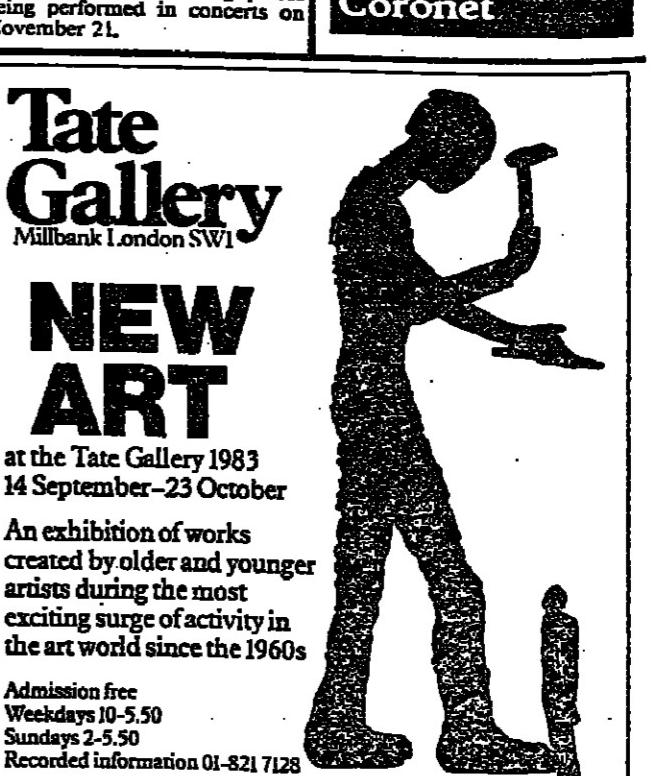
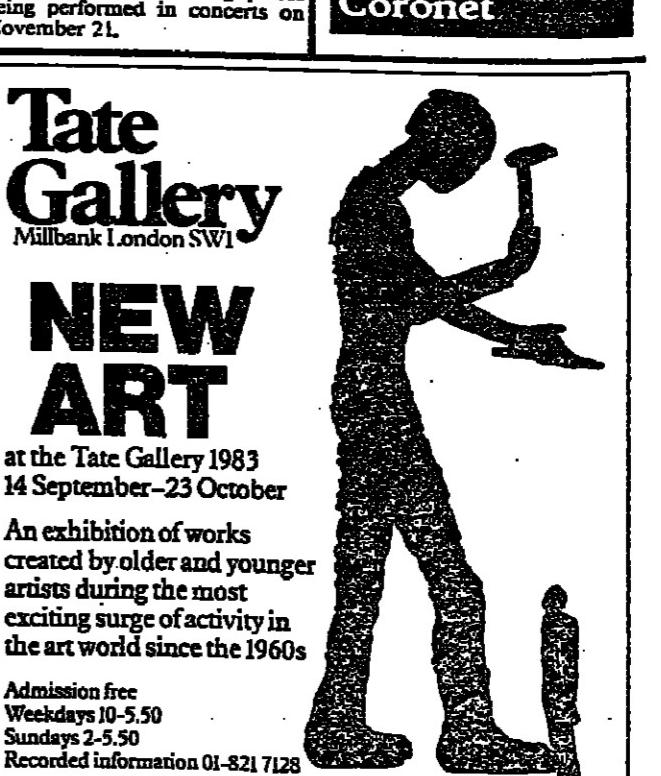
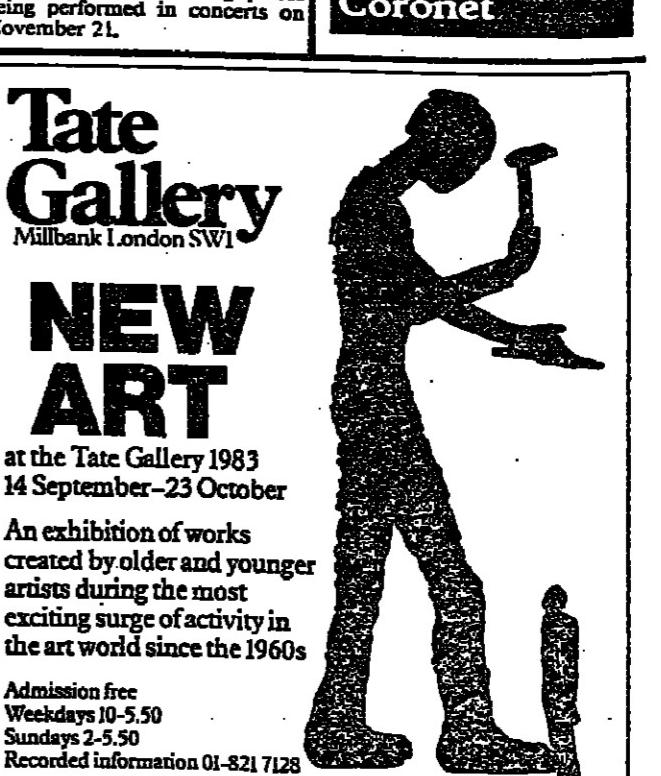
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 694.0 down 8.5
FT Gilts: 82.13 down 0.30
FT All Share: 445.21 down 5.63
Bargains: 21.349
Datstream USM Leaders
Index: 59.53 down 0.74
New York Dow Jones
Averages (latest) 1246.85
down 2.34

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 9414.15 up 68.37
Hongkong Hang Seng
Index 800.70 down 9.32
Amsterdam 154.5 down 0.2
Sydney: ASX Index 716.8
down 1.5
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index 940.70 down 0.20
Brussels: General Index
98.63 down 0.06
Paris: CAC Index 139.2
down 0.3
Zurich: SKA General 286.0
down 0.3

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4975 down 65pts
Index 84.4 down 0.2
DM 3.9725
FrF 12.0450 down 0.01
Yen 357 down 0.75
Dollar
Index 127.8 up 0.4
DM 2.6535
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4965
Dollar DM 2.6490
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 0.570685
SDR 20.702148

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9%
Finance houses base rate 10%
Discount market loans week fixed 9%
3 month interbank 9% 9%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9% 9%
3 month DM 5% 5%
3 month FrF 14% 14%
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 8%
Treasury long bond 104%
104%
ECOF Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period August 3 to September 6, 1983 Inclusive: 9.930 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$413.50 pm \$412.25
close \$412.50 (2275.50)
New York latest: \$412.25
Kruegerand* (per coin):
\$425-426.50 (2284-2285)
Sovereigns* (new):
\$97.98 (£64.75-65.50)
*Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim: Associate Book Publishers, Aurora, Central Independent Television, DRG, Eastern Produce, Emes Lighting, Cecil Gee, Manders Holdings, Moss Bros, Jane Neill Holdings, Riley Leisure, Tilbury Group, Wingate (Property Investments). **Finals:** Ben Bailey Construction, Home Farm Products, Lawrie Plantation Holdings, Mills & Allen International, Northern Industrial Improvement Trust. **Economic statistics:** Overseas Travel and Tourism (July), Quarterly analysis of bank advances (mid-Aug.), Personal income, expenditure and saving (second quarter), Industrial and commercial companies appropriation account (second quarter).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Aeronautical & General Instruments, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, EC2 (noon). Amalgamated Distilled Products, Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon). Courts (Furnishers), The Grange, 1 Central Road, Morden (11.00). Denae Inv Trust, 44 Bloomsbury Square, WC1 (12.30). Dennis (James H.) Trafford Park Road, Manchester (11.30). Diamond Stylus, Imperial Hotel, Llandudno (12.30). Nova (Jersey) Knit, Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, WC2 (11.00). Steaua Romana (British), 4 Fors Street, EC2 (noon). Wagon Industrial Holdings, Plough & Harrow Hotel, Birmingham (11.00).

NOTEBOOK

Combined English Stores has seen a £2.5m turnaround in its half-year results. The group is now pushing hard its two key High Street chains, Fentons and Salburys, and expects substantially better full-year figures.

Investors' Notebook, page 21

Report argues change would allow heavy cut in income tax

Abolition of pension reliefs could save £5.1 billion a year

By Graham Seargent

The Chancellor could cut the standard rate of income tax possibly by as much as 10p in the pound from 30p to 20p by abolishing special tax reliefs, mainly on pensions, according to radical new calculations by the Inland Revenue.

The new calculations, thought to have been ordered by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, show that tax reliefs on pension contributions, investment and lump sum payments alone amount to £5.1 billion a year for occupational pension schemes for the current financial year.

This compares with a figure of only £1.1 billion for 1982-83 used in the Government's spending plans, as a calculation of the equivalent tax cost of pension reliefs.

A further £390m was then quoted as the

tax cost of relief on self-employed pensions. On the previous basis, the 1982-83 cost of occupational pension reliefs would be £2.4 billion.

The Inland Revenue stresses that the new basis of calculation is not intended to provide a model for future pensions taxation. But it is certain to sharpen the argument both to abolish special income tax reliefs in order to reduce the standard rate of income tax or to remove the massive tax distortions between different forms of saving as recommended in the Wilson report on financial institutions and the private Meade report on personal taxation, which recommended that income tax be replaced by a spending tax.

It is also likely to be a timely reminder to the pensions industry of the true value of the privileges under which they operate and put pressure on them to conform to the Government's desire for a

better deal for those who change jobs during their careers and are heavily penalized under the occupational pensions system.

The new calculations suggest that tax relief on employees' contributions, which are not counted as pay in employees' hands, amounts to a further £1.1 billion.

Relief on the investment income of pension funds is estimated at £2.25 billion and the exemption of lump sum payments on retirement at £650m.

Even these figures ignore the tax cost of exempting pension funds from capital gains tax, which, according to the new Inland Revenue paper, "cannot be estimated reliably".

If all these reliefs were withdrawn, pensions would be subject to massive double taxation. The Revenue estimates that pensioners will pay £1.85 billion in income tax on pension payments this year.

This is probably an underestimate of the long-term balance between reliefs on pension contributions and investment on the one hand and taxation of pension payments on the other because of the huge growth of occupational pensions in the past generation and particularly since the 1975 Act.

At present, the Inland Revenue works on its traditional principle of symmetry, whereby pension contributions and investments receive tax relief whereas pension payments attract income tax, apart from lump sum disbursements on retirement.

City Editor's Comment

Struggling to meet a £275m shortfall

With the BP issue now safely out of the way, both the stock market and the Treasury are now turning their minds to what comes next.

The better than expected result of the BP tender means that Mr Lawson has now assured himself of another £542m towards his revised £1.25bn asset-sale target for this financial year. To this must be added £293m for the second tranche of British share payments last April, £80m for the imminent Wyth Farm disposal and, say £50m for odds and ends.

Doubt

In order to reach the magic (though entirely artificial) figure of £1.25bn, the Chancellor therefore needs another £275m. It could be less if there is some surprise lurking in the miscellaneous category of asset disposals. Clearly, nobody can say that the programme is not going according to plan.

Such a course would hardly make sense. The Chancellor would be laying himself open yet again to the charge that he is merely selling off capital assets to balance his books on revenue account. There is also the slight problem that at the time of the C & W flotation two years ago, the Government pledged itself to keep a majority stake in the company.

Important

But this already appears to have been abandoned, as the Government's holding has slipped – apparently without protest – from 50 to 45 per cent as a result of C & W's share-plus-cash purchase of a stake in the Telephone Company earlier this year.

We have argued in his space before that the Government should adopt a consistent and well-thought-out policy for handling its minority stakes in partly privatized companies. So far no clue has appeared.

The intriguing question is what happens if the proceeds of the oil asset sale do not come through until the 1984/5 financial year? Will the Chancellor wash his hands of the missing £275m, sure in the knowledge that the cash will be coming through a few weeks later, albeit on the wrong side of the year-end?

Given Mr Lawson's character and record to

Inchcape disappoints City

By Philip Robinson

Inchape

Half-year to 30.6.83

Pretax profit £224.5m (£24.3m)

Stated earnings p (p)

Turnover £389.8m (£284m)

Net interim dividend 7.15p (7.15p)

Share price 288-13p Yield 8 per cent

Dividend payable

Hongkong's financial crisis yesterday brought doubts of an early profits recovery for Inchape, the international trading group.

Inchape, now headed by former Unilever chairman Sir David Giv, earns about 20 per cent of its pretax profit from Hongkong. The sharp fall in its currency and stock market have needed substantial government intervention.

The crisis has hit Inchape in the middle of its second half. The company admits that the far East turned in lower profits during the first half to the end of June but points out that, for profit translations into sterling, it takes the rate ruling at the year end.

On Hongkong crisis

rather than an average over the six months.

An Inchape spokesman said last night: "The Hongkong dollar has some time to sort itself out before the end of this year."

For the six months to the end of June Inchape's pretax profits were barely changed at £24.5m on

Conran and Octopus to form book publishers

By Andrew Cornelius

Octopus Publishing Group

Half-year to 30.6.83

Pretax profit £2.2m (£1.9m)

Stated earnings £12.5m (£12.7p)

Turnover £13m (£12.7m)

Net interim/dividend 3p

Share price 42p down 13p

Dividend payable 31.10.83

were land available in the proposed sale, "then it is the buy of the year at that price."

The second favourite was Oxford in south London. But its managing director, Mr Brian Winstanley, also denied a sale and said that football's increasing relationship with the City would be a disadvantage for the club.

Mr Winstanley said: "We will be looking up and down with the results. It will place tremendous pressure on a team."

The Football League said it was philosophical about the growing business/football relationship, but warned teams that a property development on part of a football club site could be done only once.

Any subsequent poor performance and consequential fiscal troubles would not be helped by having a ground in dock to property developers.

It also warned potential investors that the antipathy of many thousands of local fans and local voters to new developments,

is for sale. The club was not named in City advertisements yesterday, merely that the directors were about to retire and were offering the club for £200,000 with agreed tax losses of £1m.

The club was disclosed as being in a "lower division". It is thought to be in the third, and also to be in the attractive to City investors – to be situated in the south of England.

The news follows hard-on-the-heels of Saturday's news that property developer Marler Estates has bought the Chelsea ground and intends redeveloping the site.

Most of the 48 clubs in the two lower divisions are in financial difficulty. However, Bradford, in west London, emerged as the favourite to be putting itself up for sale because it is already controlled by a property developer, Mr Martin Lange.

However, he denied the possibility, saying that he is a fan and intends the ground to remain a stadium. He added that if there

Bank lending shows modest increase

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The pace of bank lending accelerated in the three months to mid-August, according to new figures from the Bank of England, as industrial demand for credit recovered modestly and demand from the personal sector remained strong.

Mr Michael Smith, analyst at the stockbroking firm Simons & Cates, said: "I was expecting full year profits of £53m, but it could be nearer £50m. I would expect those looking for £57m to start revising down their forecasts."

In the year to last December, Inchape reported pretax profits of £55.8m. Its performance since the record year in 1977 has been patchy.

Last summer Lord Inchape, chairman for almost 25 years, announced he was retiring. Sir David took over this year.

Lending for house-buying contributed £948m of the increase – but the Bank of England said the increase was probably seasonal and remained below the fast growth in 1982.

Lending to manufacturing industry increased by a modest £213m after the sharp fall in the previous quarter but the Bank of England says the amount outstanding is still 4 per cent lower than a year ago.

Bank lending to the public sector continued to decline during

the three months and the acceleration in lending to the private sector is broadly in line with recent indications of the trend.

However, in recent months the Bank of England has managed to offset much of the expansionary impact of money supply growth with the heavy sales of government stocks.

During the September banking months, for instance, the Government's aggressive funding programme is expected to more than offset the impact of bank lending to the private sector rose by £3.19m.

Although demand for credit from the personal sector was still below the high levels seen last year, personal borrowing still accounted for over half the adjusted rise in lending and was 7.5 per cent up at £1.770m during the period.

Lending for house-buying contributed £948m of the increase – but the Bank of England said the increase was probably seasonal and remained below the fast growth in 1982.

America Express has negotiated a new deal with Alleghany Corporation to buy its main asset, Investors Diversified Services (IDS), for about £77.5m (£17m).

Last month American Express called off its takeover of IDS and other operations belonging to Alleghany.

The takeover was widely criticised by Wall Street analysts who said American Express was paying too much.

American Express is still paying well over the £450m book value of IDS and the new agreement excluded MSL Industries, steel company owned by Alleghany.

About £338m of the purchase price will be paid in cash and the rest by issuing 11.5 million American Express shares compared with the 23 million which would have been issued under the original deal.

The public will be offered over 5 million shares at 185p each. Most of the cash will come direct through Habitat Mothercare's 550 stores as well as the book trade.

Octopus and Habitat Mothercare have put £230,000 pieces into the 50-50 joint venture. The board meets for the first time today to decide which sites to launch next year.

The first titles from the company are likely to be an extension of Habitat Mothercare's successful range of books on home design and cooking, although later titles for mothers and teaching books for children will be published.

Octopus Publishing Company also produced its first interim results since its stock market launch. Pretax profits, which were in line with expectations, reached £2.2m, against £1.9m at the comparable stage last year.

Turnover for the six months to June 30 was up, from £12.4m to £13.1m. The board has recommended an interim dividend of 3p per share. This year, Octopus expects to publish 25 million books, against 22 million in 1982.

The Americans are also being difficult over a selective capital increase for the World Bank, under which some countries (though not the United States) would increase their contributions

In the second of our series, John Lawless looks at Britain's fight to tap the £30bn world telephone market

Turning point to success for System X

There are two legends about the worldwide telecommunications industry.

The first concerns a Kansas City underwriter who was so fed up with calls being directed to a competitor's funeral parlour - by the competitor's wife who worked at the local telephone exchange - that he invented the world's first automatic call-switching device.

The other is that after more than 15 years of development, by 1,000 engineers and at a cost of £275m, Britain's third generation electronic telephone network, System X, is a commercial failure.

The first is true - and Mr Almon B Stronger's anti-body switching equipment is more than 80 years old, still used in 4,202 of Britain's 6,598 local exchanges.

The second is not. Proof, however, will have to wait. By the exporter's harsh creed, "the only success is an order that is signed, sealed, delivered and paid for".

British Telecom can talk for days about the amazing benefits of the digital national network it has begun to install, with initial equipment orders of £150m to be added to twice a year.

By 1986, 30 main centres will be linked by digital transmission, with 80 trunk exchanges in place two years later. The City of London will be the first to be blessed with the many, and often business-applicable, add-on services under a pilot scheme next year.

But the only thing the manufacturers, Plessey and GEC, cannot add is the name of their first important overseas buyer of System X.

That moment, though, may come in as little as two weeks' time.

The manufacturers refuse to be drawn about their immediate sales prospects. The industry, however, is buzzing with the sort of noises which digital systems are

supposed to eliminate. A Middle East customer, it is said, is close to a decision.

The excitement of business insiders is more easily understood if they are likened to zoo-keepers awaiting the birth of an animal which has managed to combine the rarity of the panda with the pregnancy of an elephant: orders for digital networks have been few, and follow-tendering periods of up to three years.

Whether System X gets the next order or not, the noticeable thing about senior management in the companies involved is that they are not chewing crossed fingers. They maintain that, within very short period, their chances of success will improve dramatically.

System X was developed jointly by British Telecom, Plessey, GEC and Standard Telephones, which later dropped out. A year ago, development collaboration ended, leaving the two manufacturers as rivals not only for BT's business, but to grab a share for Britain of a highly competitive £30bn a year market to bring the world into the new telephone-based electronic age.

The heart of this competition is in countries which do not have their own manufacturers.

The frustration in the System X camp is not so much over the "no sales" talk as over the tantalising dream of success. "There are 400 million telephones in the world," says Mr Eric Clark, chief executive of Plessey Communications. "The orders placed so far for systems which can compete with System X amount to six or seven million. That means there is more than 98 per cent of today's market still to go - and it is growing and growing."

The two deals for which System X has been short-listed during the recent past, in China and India, carried demands that the system must offer operational evidence

volumes this long," explains Mr Reynolds, stretching his hands far apart, like the fisherman-with-the-one-that-got-away.

The reason why two orders slipped away to France with one for a £150m factory, contains many of the elements of what Mr Clark describes as "the reality of selling" in today's highly-competitive world markets.

Everyone in the industry had heard that CIT-Alcatel was never really in the bidding. It was certainly not in the last three at the technical evaluation stage.

Telephone calls from Mitterrand the French President, to Mrs Indira Gandhi have been rumoured and as one European trade official, who was closely involved, observes: "India bought a digital telecommunications system at the same time as it set up a package for jet fighters and nuclear collaboration - and that was no coincidence."

The fact that India had always said that it wanted two technologies, to ensure that it did not become dependent on one supplier, increased the pain of the second French order - but left the belief that the market has not been closed.

Messrs Clark, Reynolds and Alvey accompanied Mr Kenneth Baker, the Industry and Information Technology Minister, to India last month, to talk about a range of telecommunications proposals. "We have an on-going dialogue with India," says Mr Reynolds.

China was much heart-warming for the British. "We could have sold them had System X been up and running in significant quantities in Britain," says Mr Clark emphatically.

He pointed out that in the current round of rescheduling, forfeit notes are being repaid and are not included in any deferral - even by countries like Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Poland.

Mr Nigel Hindson is general manager of the London branch of Creditanstalt, Austria's biggest company and biggest bank, which handles 40 per cent of Austria's export financing.

He says: "There is a big difference in a country allowing a default on a note covering the import of goods supporting a basic industry than allowing a default on an internationally syndicated loan."

In the end, industry sources believe, they paid at least 25 per cent more than the System X price.

Tomorrow:
Davy Corporation

Financial notes

Why forfeit notes are big business

One of the main problems to emerge from the international debt crisis has been how leading manufacturers can continue exporting to those countries with little or no hard currency or a poor credit rating.

Ironically, solving these problems has fallen upon those trade financing sectors of the same banks whose international loan departments are battling to sort out the massive rescheduling game now being played.

The age-old barter system has gained new significance while a "tremendous" growth is taking place in counter-purchasing deals and a little-known finance market called a forfeit, or forfeiture note.

Forfeit notes came into prominence as a trade tool in the late 1960s through West Germany's trade with the Eastern Block. Vienna became the primary centre, while Switzerland and London have since become prominent.

A recent export of British chemicals to Indonesia was paid for by the proceeds from the European sale of Indonesian wood. All well and good, if a country has domestically produced commodities to trade ...

For Third World countries, where even their commodities, if any, have limited attractions, the counter-purchasing system has taken on new significance.

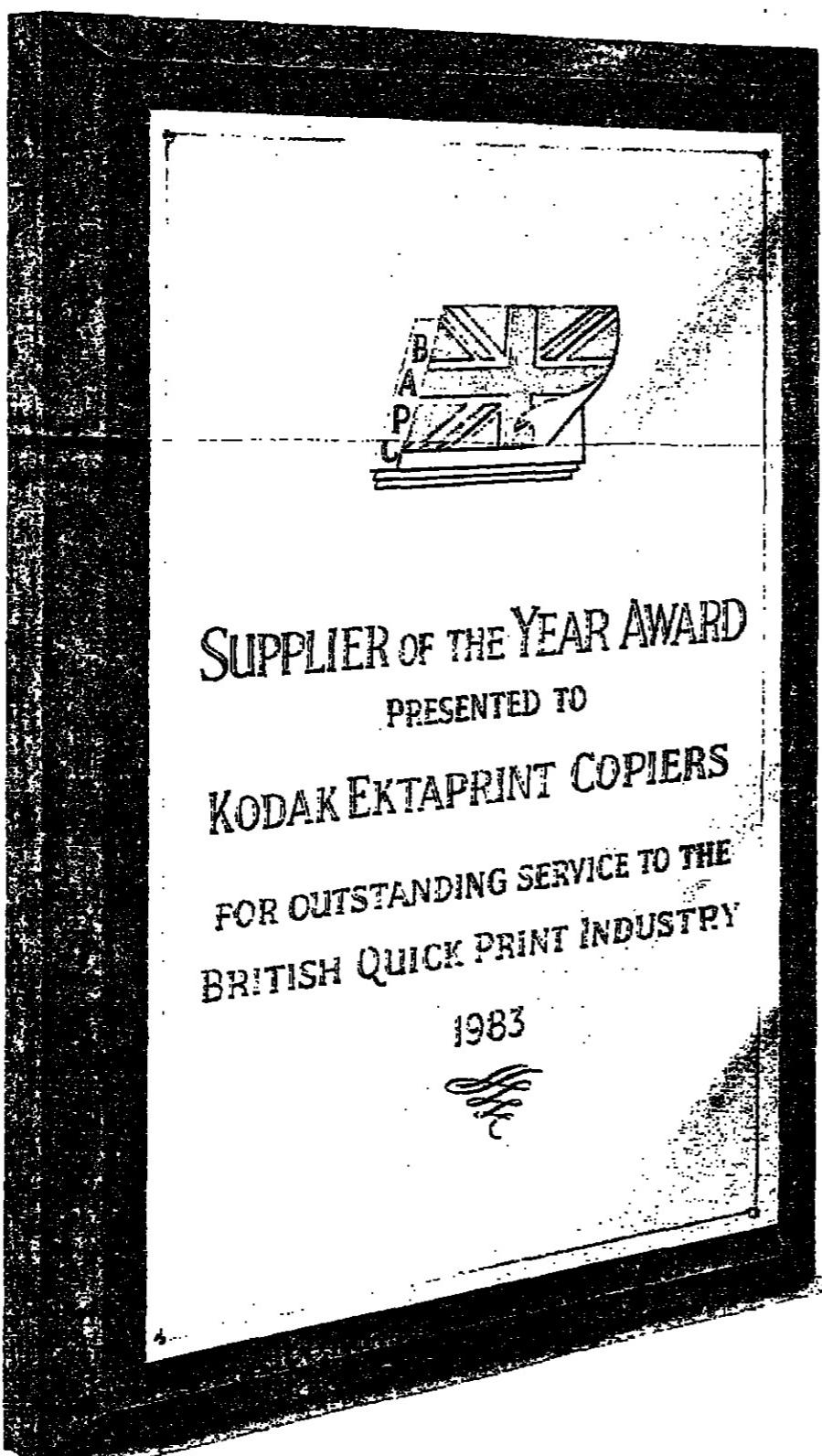
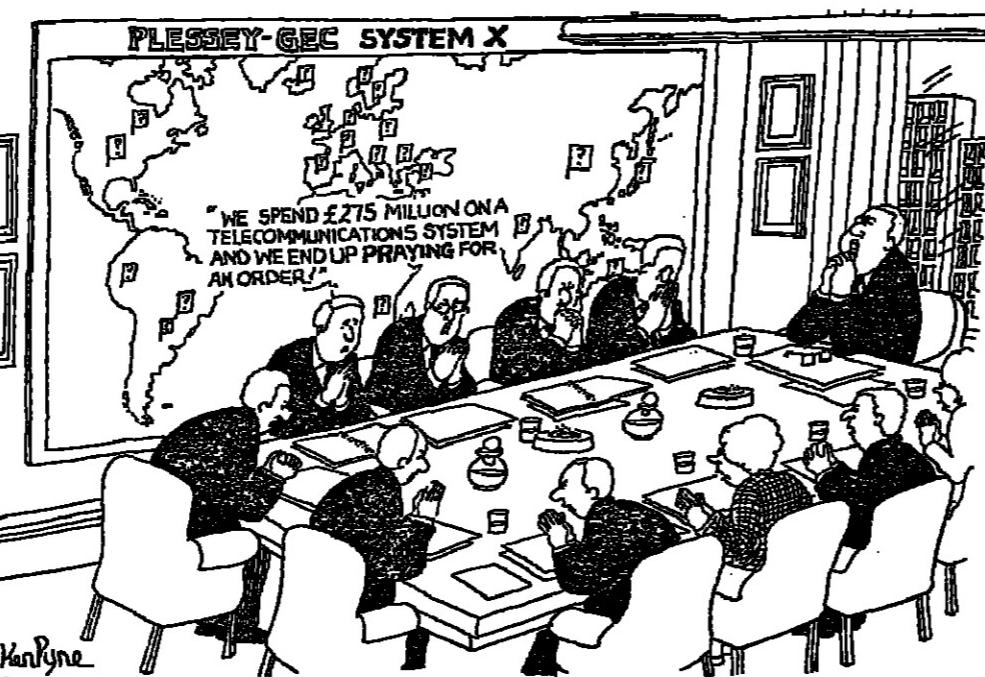
This involves a specialized company, Creditanstalt's AWT, a London-based subsidiary that deals with Britain's accepting houses and America's big banks like Chase Manhattan - acting as a middle-man for the exchange of goods.

This system satisfies those exporters which cannot or do not want to find a market for goods offered in exchange. The goods do not have to be internally produced. They can be left over from another, entirely different transaction.

For instance, AWT sold Jamaican aluminium to pay for the import of a large order of Land Rovers. AWT's job is to sell the goods and work out a price with the exporter.

"All the systems show tremendous growth," Mr Hindson added. "But they do not cover risks. If you know what you are doing, however, they can certainly be less risky than a straight bank loan."

Wayne Lintott



The day a 'Kodak' copier actually broke down.

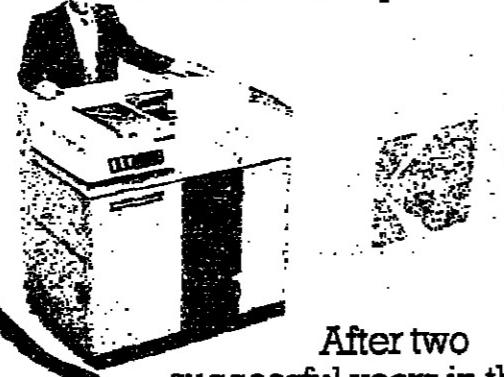
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Sunday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Monday
Monday	Heathrow - Moscow - Tokyo - Osaka	Tuesday
Tuesday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Wednesday
Wednesday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Thursday
Thursday	Heathrow - Copenhagen - Tokyo - Osaka	Friday

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YACHTING

Lexcen unveils secrets of that superior keel

From Barry Pickthall, Newport, Rhode Island

The Australian victory in the seventh and final deciding race for the America's Cup against the American defending 12-meter, Liberty, out on Rhode Island Sound on Monday can be attributed to one man: Ben Lexcen.

It was the brilliance of his 12-metre design that finally broke the 132-year dominance the Americans had held in the field of yacht design and technology for Australia II, Alan Bond's radical wing-keeled challenger, held such a speed advantage over the Americans that her crew were able to make all the basic blunders—and still win.

The most dramatic illustration of this came in the last race when the Australians recovered from an eight-second deficit at the start to pull off a four-boats-length lead over the American yacht halfway up the first beat. Her crew skippered by John Benford, then broke the cardinal rule of match racing by failing to cover the other rival, preferring instead to back out of the favourable wind shift. They paid the price, for Liberty, skippered by Dennis Conner, one of the world's most successful match race exponents, was able to gain the best of the breeze out on the port side of the course and turn the deficit into a six-boats-length lead at the first weather mark.

The Americans then extended this advantage to round the fourth mark 57 seconds ahead. Against any other 12-metre, this margin would have assured Conner of an easy victory, but not against the Ben Lexcen-designed Australia II. Lured, perhaps, by a false sense of security, he presented the Americans with a challenge to cover the faster Australian yacht, a smaller Conner will doubtless have nightmares about for years to come: for the Australians played the shifts out to the east of the run line of this 4.5-mile-square run to pull back into the lead.

Full realization that the Australians were getting the upper hand came slowly as the two yachts continued down the course on opposite gybes. Liberty criss-crossed her own path, gybing several times in an ill-fated attempt to find a stronger breeze, while Australia II,

which had already proved, in the six previous races in this series, to be much faster on this course, found the fresher wind first, and, 35 minutes into the leg, drew level with the American yacht.

Sailing faster, at a closer angle to the wind, Australia II slipped into the lead to round the mark 21 seconds ahead before giving a convincing display of her superior manoeuvring ability through 47 tacks on the final beat to win the race and the cup by 47 seconds.

After the race, the Australians finally unveiled the secret weapon that has kept everyone, including the Americans, guessing all summer—Australia II's winged keel, the Lexcen brainwave, perfected in Holland, that gave the yacht her easier handling and superior speed up wind and down.

Contrary to popular belief, the keel does not carry a bulb at its base but is a uniform chord-section throughout its length, which merely makes the keel thinner at its base.

On the aft edge there is a simple trim-tab with a two-part articulating plastic fairing to provide a smooth curve to the foil when the tab is turned.

Ironically, Britain's Victory Syndicate was given a pointer to the potential offered by this radical idea when, in 1979, the Dutchman David Hollom produced a one-on-scale sailing model of his own 12-metre design back in 1981, which boasted a bulbous keel and wings that provided a similar end-plate effect to the keel. Unfortunately the brilliance of his idea was not recognized by syndicate head Pete de Savary, who turned it down as too radical, despite the fact that the yacht had shown considerable superiority both upward and down.

Hollom allowed *The Times* to show the lines of his initial design—Royal Oak—to Dr Peter van Oossanen, director of the shipmodel basin in Holland, who helped Lexcen to perfect his own ideas for a winged-keel.

Dr van Oossanen said he was amazed that Hollom's ideas and findings had been so close to their own at that time when they had just begun their own \$500,000 dollar development programme.

Bond, a man of his word

On a spring morning in 1970 at a ship building yard in Mamaroneck, New York, Alan Bond, of Australia, and the crew from his yacht, Apollo, spotted an unusual yacht and climbed aboard to inspect her. She was the newly-launched Valiant, a 12 metre, in which all the winches were below deck, and which had been built for the defence of the America's Cup that summer.

Bond, who had never seen a 12 metre before, was fascinated by it and turned to Ben Lexcen, Apollo's designer, and said: "I want you to design me a boat like that. I am going to win that Cup." That was 13 years and four challenges ago, and after more than \$16m (£11m) had been spent Bond achieved his ambition of being the first challenger to defeat the United States.

Authorised Units Trusts

High Bid Offer Yield
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1982/83 High Bid Offer Trust
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TENNIS

Treading the road to Telford from Wimbledon

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Christopher Mottram and Colin Dowdeswell, who were born in the same Wimbledon nursing home in 1935 (Mottram on April 26, Dowdeswell 17 days later) have been seeded to contest the men's singles final of the inaugural Refuge Assurance British national championships to be played at Telford from October 3 to 9. Joanna Duri and Joanne Wade have been seeded to contest the women's final.

Dowdeswell has had no British ranking. He was brought up in what was then Rhodesia and in 1977 won both his singles when representing Rhodesia against Switzerland in the Davis Cup competition. The same year he emigrated to Switzerland and is still ranked third there, though for the past three years he has lived in Britain. Dowdeswell has a British passport and two months ago, the International Tennis Federation accepted him as a British player to play for Britain.

Dowdeswell's path to the Telford final is obstructed by, among others, two of Britain's present Davis Cup team, Andrew Jarrett and John Lloyd. In the recent United States championships, Lloyd beat three players more highly ranked than

GOLF

Chance for vengeance

Sandy Lyle who has been beaten twice in finals in the past three years, gets a chance or revenge in the £150,000 World Match-play championship sponsored by Sun City, Wiesbaden, on October 6 to 9. Lyle, who heard of his participation for the third time only last week, will face the Australian, Greg Norman, who beat him to the 1980 title.

Last year Lyle lost at the 37th to Severiano Ballesteros of Spain who is aiming to become the first man to win the event three years in succession. Ballesteros is drawn against Arnold Palmer, who won the first event in 1964.

It is the 20th match play event, and the organizers hope to assemble all 12 previous champions; 11 of them accepted but Jack Nicklaus, who captains the America Ryder Cup team the following week, has declined. The other British challenger, Nick Faldo, the winner of five tournaments this season and the clear leader of the

First round (over 18 holes); S Ballesteros (ESP) V A Palmer (USA); T Wiesbaden (USA) V B Langer (AUS); V C Peltz (USA); G Faldo (GBR) V H Irvin (USA); D Graham (AUS); N Faldo (GBR) V G Marsh (AUS). All other will be over 36 holes.

More golf page 25

Award for Decker

The American middle distance runner, Mary Decker was named amateur Sportswoman of the Year and Martina Navratilova the Wimbledon tennis champion was named Professional Sportswoman of the Year by the Women's Sports Foundation in New York.

RACKETS

Penn to defend his world title against an irrepressible rival

By William Stephens

John Penn, aged 30, who defeated William Surtees in December 1981 to win the world racket championship, has agreed to defend his title for the first time by accepting a challenge from his irrepressible rival, William Boone, aged 33, who was the challenger against Surtees in 1979 - losing 5-0.

Penn is under no obligation - having retained his position of dominance in winning the crucial championships last season, with the exception of the United States Amateur Singles and also the Celestion Invitation Singles. However, Boone had come tantalisingly close to the championship, losing by a few points on two big occasions - at the Chicago Invitational Singles in December, when he led 13-10, in the fifth game but lost 18-15; and the British Amateur Championship in January - when he lost 17-15 in the fifth, having also led in the set to three. In their most recent encounter, the British Open, in April, Penn recorded a decisive victory 4-1. He has now won five British Open championships against Boone's one, and four Amateur to Boone's three.

Penn's one leg against Surtees at the New York Racquet and Tennis Club, was the greatest exhibition of sustained classical racquets.

In view of the recent spectacular battles between Penn and Boone - currently the two outstanding players in the world - and Boone's fighting quality of giving his all in countless competitiveness, it is excellent for Rackets in Britain to have a challenge between United Kingdom-based players for the first time since 1954, when George Wilson beat Jim Dent 6-5 at Queen's before moving to Chicago, and retaining the championship until 1972, by which time Surtees, another Old Ruebelian, was already a Chicago resident. Over the ensuing years, Howard Angus played one leg there, both when challenging Surtees and defending against him.

With the world championship decided over two legs - each the best of seven games - the host will be elected on consideration for the benefit of the game in North America, to play the first leg at the Montreal Racquet Club on Saturday, January 7, 1984, with the second leg at the Queen's Club, London, on the following Saturday, January 14.

The players who made the greatest advance last season in rackets forcing them into both British Open semi-final positions, and in doubles, were Mark and Paul Nicholls (Public Schools champions for Malvern, in 1974), and other players who made considerable impact were Etonians, Thomas Braden and David Ruck-Keece, Marlburians, Christopher Worlidge and Matthew Mockridge, and Cliftonians Julian Penney. The fine double-handed Julian, the fine hand-doubled Mark, for Rackets James Male, has just returned from a year's sports scholarship in the United States to compete in the new season.

Among the professionals, the very high quality of play continues at the top, with Norwood Cripps (aged 39) still maintaining his supremacy - but with one of the best Open prospects in many years, Shannon Hazel (Wellington), potentially a brilliant player providing he concentrates on Rackets, and not squash.

Sponsorship by Celestion Loudspeakers is to continue, together with their joint scheme with the governing body, the Tennis and Rackets Association, to subsidize the age of 25, costs for players of all standards who join clubs to keep up the game after leaving school.

The base of the game is being broadened by the growth at schools of "evening town clubs", particu-



Concentration: John Penn perfectly poised for a backhand.

Mackenzie, E F Longrigg, D S Milford, J H Pawle, C T M Pugh, R Thompson and A H E Webb.

They will be heartened to know of the planned reopening of the Cheltenham College court - opposite the Chapel and overlooking the cricket ground, which Gloucestershire County Council, Second World War the court has been used as a workshop, and its restoration is being helped very significantly financially by the Tennis and Rackets Association, who will also be supporting the cost of a professional to teach boys.

Cheltenham's best Rackets player was the great cricketer, K S Deepshinghi, who played for the college from 1921 to 1923 before becoming first string for Cambridge (who had lost in the University match to D S Milford). There is now a Deepshinghi scholarship at Cheltenham College.

MAIN FIXTURES: October 4-8: Masters singles (over 40) at Queen's; October 21-22: Manchester Gold Cup; November 1-12: Lord Bruce Cup at Queen's; 8-11: Celestion Invitation Singles; 12-14: several clubs; December 3-10: Pizza Queen's; December 17-24: Public Schools; Queen's; December 30-January 1: Celestion; January 7-14: Rackets (Queen's); January 8-22: Amateur singles (Queen's); February 6-12: Amateur doubles (Queen's); February 18-24: Professional singles and doubles (Wiesbaden); March 2-26: Securit Open competition (Playing Field); March 2-4: Dartmouth Doubles Cup (Dartmouth); April 1-6: Open (Queen's); April 3-7: Celestion (Queen's); April 14-18: Public School doubles (Queen's); April 21-25: Celestion (Queen's); April 28-May 4: Celestion (Queen's); April 30-May 4: Sandhurst Trophy (Queen's); May 4-7: Sandhurst tournament (final).

Bicycle polo, a sport that is in the middle of rescuing itself

A touch of Irish in a game so eccentrically English

Bicycle polo was once an Olympic sport, so let us have no unseemly mockery of the nine teams who recently trekked across England to thrash and pedal for the George Brake Trophy at Purley Way playing fields. The twinkled-kneed brotherhood may have looked a trifle incongruous as, knees going like beset pistons, they flung themselves into the fray on a pitch surrounded by football fields and Sunday afternoon George Bests, but they were playing a real sport with honoured traditions.

The rain was coming down in great sheets while players between games in this round robin tournament stood around in anoraks and bedewed spectacles, fiddling with bikes, talking bicycle polo shop or pedalling about practicing telling passes. "Not me," said The Maltese Cat, "I don't race. I play the game."

But unlike the equine game, a game in which running a team costs as much as running an ocean-going yacht, I am told, bicycle polo is cheap. A polo will cost a mere £89.

The sport is in the middle of rescuing itself from an all-time low, with membership of the Bicycle Polo Association (BPA) hitting unplumb depths three years ago, but at Purley, Chelsea Pedlars turned up a newly registered outfit with an impressive 42 playing members. They had been going for three years outside the fold, but now they were contesting the George Brake Trophy for the first time, with public school accents and one player wearing for reasons best known to himself, a pair of real jodhpurs.

"Basically it all started as a hare-brained scheme dreamt up in a pub," explained the Chelsea captain, Nick Mayhew-Sanders. Joe Garnett, a player with a silken kerchief about his head, added: "We play because it really is great. We use smaller mallet heads than most of the players here, and the ball goes something wicked. That tends to keep the adrenaline flowing." They play twice a week, more often than most of the more experienced players, and have a pitch in Hyde Park.

Technique

But experience and technique count in this game, a strange sport that demands strange skills. "I'm a newcomer," said Clem Cowling, a slip of a youth somewhere in his 60s. "I didn't start playing until 1947." He was playing at back for Crystal Palace, much to his surprise: he was co-opted into the side after he had turned up to watch. They were doing rather well, as it happened. "Of course, in the old days Palace were the old enemy," he said. "I used to be with Croydon Aces you see."

This is, indeed, a long-established sport. In fact, it is probably the only sport to have been invented twice. Perhaps not altogether surprisingly, it was invented by an Irishman first time around: Richard Mecredy was a racing cyclist too old for the road and so, like The Maltese Cat in the Kipling story, he started to play the game, pausing only to invent it. That was 1891, and to this day, Ireland are the

world's only Olympic gold medal winners in the sport of bicycle polo. That was in 1908, when the Olympic Games were held in Shepherd's Bush.

But Cyril Scott was unaware of these fascinating facts, and so he invented the game again, and founded the BPA in 1930. The game spread rapidly, through many cycling clubs packed with enthusiastic racers happy to find a winter way of keeping fit. "I started in 1933," said Fred Bull, while Chelsea A were in the process of getting thumped by the accuracy and skill of Solihull. "I played for Wandsworth in the London League days, after the war, when we used to play in greyhound stadiums, and get crowds of 2,000. George Brake was the man behind it, of course. He tried to organize the sport on a semi-professional basis, but the crowds were never quite big enough. I don't play any more though, not since I broke my wrist falling off a mountain."

Acceleration

The BPA secretary, Tony Knight, remembers playing his first game on an errant boy's bike with a basket on the front, but a proper polo bike is a specialist machine, with extra strong wheels, a contorted frame and straight front forks which make the turning circle as small as possible, no brakes on fixed wheel, and an extremely low gear that makes for rapid acceleration, and means that you can go as fast as you can in a zig-zag.

The bike also has tiny handlebars, "so you don't rupture yourself in a sudden turn," Mr Knight explained kindly. You buy your mallet from Salter's, who also make the mallets you use when you play bicycle polo on horseback.

Or elephant, back to the Mounted Sports Association of India, whose members play polo on bikes, horses and elephants recently toured England: "all maharajahs and princes. They beat us 10-5," said Mr Knight. Chelsea Pedlars also played them, and like Mr Knight's boys, were invited to take to the pitch. Chelsea think they might actually make it in February.

And think not that bicycle polo men are cissies. It is a game that can be unbearably physical, and a passing inadvertent can leave a wreath of bikes, mallets and limping players in its wake. "I like the game because it is quick, with plenty of aggression and skill," said Robert Walker, the captain of Solihull and England. In the last international, two years back, Scotland beat England 5-3.

Clem Cowling helped the old enemy, Crystal Palace, to third place, while Mr Knight lifted his team, Solent B, into fourth. The final was played between Bex and Solihull, and Walker, lining up for the Solihull side with his sons Mark and Adam, won 4-2 after extra time. It is true that Purley Way playing fields are a long way from the Olympic Games, but there will always be an England so long as bicycle polo is played as a serious sport.

Simon Barnes



Like a circus trick cyclist, this cocooned player waits for the start (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Final first-class averages for the 1983 cricket season

Imran stirs memories of the days of Grace

By Marcus Williams

In 1982 Imran Khan's performances for Pakistan against England established him among the game's leading all-rounders and suggested that the team he also captained so inspirationally would challenge strongly for the Prudential World Cup in 1983. In the event a stress fracture of the shin, brought on by the continual strain of fast bowling, kept him out of the attack and Pakistan did not progress beyond the semi-final round.

After the World Cup Imran was free to apply his talents to batting for Sussex, which he did with sufficient success to finish sixth in the first-class averages. As his injury healed, he was able to resume bowling in the closing weeks of the season, albeit in short spells and at reduced speed, but well enough - and thanks largely to his six wickets for six runs against Warwickshire - to take top place in the bowling list by a wide margin and in so doing to delight collectors of cricket's more esoteric records.

Although several bowlers making only occasional appearances have recorded lower averages than Imran's 7.16 runs per wicket, his figure is the best to meet the qualification of 10 wickets in 10 innings since Alles Hill,

of Yorkshire and England, took 29 wickets at 7.03 apiece, and Richard Williams, also on the fringe, was 20th. The latter's all-round figures - 1,305 runs (average 43.50) and 47 wickets (22.04) - compare more favourably with Marks' 530 (22.08) and 53 (32.03).

Botham was one of the bowlers to take a hundred wickets when four last achieved the feat together in 1978 - the others were Lever and Underwood, as now, and Seelye - and it highlights the present state of affairs that six of the bowlers who toured Australia that winter finished in the top 14 of the averages.

This year's batting list, headed for the first time by Vivian Richards, is more encouraging for England, particularly in bowling. Of the five following Imran four are banned from Test cricket for touring South Africa and the other, Marshall, plays for West Indies. Of the four bowlers to take a hundred wickets three are banned and although the fourth, Gifford, is going on England's winter tour, it is only as assistant manager.

The records of the bowlers chosen for the tour make depressing reading, with Dilley (19th) the highest placed. He is followed by Foster (29th), Cook (38th), Willis (41st), Cowans (66th and a mere 30 wickets), Marks (78th) and Botham (85th and only 22 wickets). By contrast Edmonds, who was not selected, finished 15th.

Overall the 1983 averages present the now customary picture of domination by players ineligible for England, particularly in bowling. Of the five following Imran four are banned from Test cricket for touring South Africa and the other, Marshall, plays for West Indies. Of the four bowlers to take a hundred wickets three are banned and although the fourth, Gifford, is going on England's winter tour, it is only as assistant manager.

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La crème de la crème

also on page 28

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 **CatFax AM:** News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast Time:** With Frank Bough and Sheila Scott: News from Ham Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter-hour; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; tonight's television previewed between 6.45 and 7.00; a review of the morning papers at 7.15 and 8.15; pop music news from Mike Smith between 7.30 and 8.00; and Esther Rantzen's *That's Life*. File between 7.30 and 8.00; and again between 8.30 and 9.00. Closedown at 9.00.

10.05 **Gherber:** Magazine programme of interest to Asian women. Children's behaviour problems are discussed by Swaran Takhar and Samina Mir, two mothers who have made a special study of the subject. 10.30 **Play School:** For the under-fives, presented by Ian Thomas and gran-Sue Long. The story, *Pearly the Horse*, is told by Brian Cant. 10.55 **Closedown:**

12.30 **News After Noon:** With Richard Whiteman and Vivien Creager. The world news bulletin from Bill Giles. 12.57 **Regional news:** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles).

1.00 **Pebble Mill at One:** The guests today include General Sir John Hatchett; Dr Claire Weeks who derives into the causes of nervous fatigue and depression; Susan Hicks with some cooking hints; and music provided by Clarence "Frogman" Henry. 1.15 *King Radio* (1.15 Sat-Sun & 1.45 Sun). 2.00 **Closedown:**

2.10 **Film: Sombrero (1953) starring Ricardo Montalban and Pier Angeli:** Love and inter-town rivalry. Guest: Pier Angeli. Directed by Norman Foster. 3.53 **Regional news:** (not London).

3.55 **Play School:** presented by Ian Lauchlan. The story is *Ghosts for Sale*. 4.20 **Cartoon:** Laurel and Hardy characters in *High Fly Guy*. 4.25 **Picture Trail:** Krisy Miller and Howard Stabeloff with more clues to unravel.

4.35 **All Star Summer Show:** Sun and games with a cast of presenters from BBC children's programmes. 4.45 **Newsround:** with Paul McDowell. 5.05 **The All Star Summer Show** continued. 5.35 **Henry's Cat:**

5.40 **News with Mairi Stewart:** 6.00 South East at Six.

6.25 **Ask the Family:** The second match in the general knowledge quiz pits the Timms family from Northampton against the Russells of Edinburgh. Robert Robinson is in the chair.

6.50 **Harty:** His guests today include Lord Snowdon and pop group Bucks Fizz.

7.25 **Film: Legend of the Golden Gun (1979) starring Jeff Osterhage and Karl Dulus:** A story of revenge with rancher John Colton on the trail of the notorious William Quantrell who was responsible for the death of Colton's parents. Directed by Alan J. Ladd.

9.00 **News with John Humphrys:** 9.25 **We're Being Served?** Small businessman confront David Trippier, MP, the Small Firms Minister.

9.55 **Sportsnight:** introduced by Harry Carpenter. Highlights from last night's boxing matches, from one of tonight's European football competitions involving a British club, and skating from Richmond Ice Rink.

11.15 **News headlines:**

11.20 **Flamingo Road:** Who killed Michael Tyrone? The list of suspects seems endless.

12.10 **Weather:**

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain:** presented by Nick Owen and John Stapleton. A review of the morning papers at 6.30; news from Gavin Smith at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.45; exercises at 6.45 and 9.15; a guest in the spotlight with John Stapleton at 7.45.

Popeye cartoon: at 7.22; guest Sheila Hancock from 7.35; Fenton Breather's Casebook at 7.50; pop video at 7.55; *Vidal Season's star forecast* at 8.05; Eve Pollard's *cosplay* column at 8.25; Whoozy and friends at 8.30.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Themes news headlines:** 9.30 **For Schools:** *Play A Game of Soldiers*. 9.47 **A West Indian boy takes about his family:** 10.04 *Face*, 10.21 **Understanding television:** 10.48 **The Development of Manchester and Los Angeles:** 11.10 **A day in the life of an ambulance man:** 11.22 **Basic Maths:** Lines. 11.39 **How we used to live:**

12.00 **Bottom Moon:** *Rocket* adventures of the puppet character, Mr Spock (r). 12.10 **Horizon:** Learning with puppets (r). 12.30 **Play Day:** The first in a new series and Tony Blair is a Scots comedian. Colin Murray, who selects clips from his favourite films.

1.00 **News:** 1.20 **Thames News:** 1.30 **A Plus:** Nancy Roberts discusses the traumas of moving home with environmental psychologist Dr David Carter.

2.00 **Racing from Newmarket:** introduced by Brough Scott. Live coverage of the Lonsdale Selling Stakes (2.15); the William Hill Cheveley Park Stakes (2.45); and the Panton Stakes (3.15), 3.30 **Blockbusters:** General knowledge quiz for 18-year-olds.

4.00 **News:** 4.20 **Thames News:** 4.45 **Picnic:** *Reddy in Picnicland* (r). 4.15 **Horizon:** *2000: The Year You Were Born*: Rod Hull in another adventure with his unpredictable pet. 4.45 **The All Electric Amazement:** Arcade. Episode three and the pop group help Bells renovate the Arade. 5.15 **Dirtiest Strokes:**

5.45 **News:** 5.50 **Thames News:** 5.55 **Help!** The third and last programme about Youth Training Schemes.

6.35 **Crossroads:** Sharon Maclaine learns about another side of life and Jill Harvey is surprised by a telephone call from her ex-husband.

7.00 **Where There's Life:** presented by Miriam Stoppard and Rob Buckman. The items are about a murder in the family; young people killing the heroin habit; and arthritis at 24 (see *Choices*).

7.30 **Coronation Street:** Ken Barlow has some important news for wife Deirdre.

8.00 **Horror:** *Love and Wise:* This week Eric is trapped in a basket; Emile talks to the birds; and they spot dodos nest door.

8.30 **Keep It in the Family:** More humorous incidents from the life of a father dominated by his female family.

9.00 **Rally - Ace of Spades:** Tonight, the master spy is in St. Petersburg trying to win for the Germans the contract to rebuild the Russian fleet.

10.30 **Frontier USA:** The first part of the trilogy that traces the cocaine trail from South American jungles to smart apartments in the United States.

11.30 **Database:** presented by Tony Babbale from the Personal Computer World show at the Barbican Centre.

12.15 **Night Thoughts:** from Fr. Michael Hollings on Michaelmas.



Miriam Stoppard and Rob Buckman: ITV 7.00pm

BBC 2

5.05 **Open University:** *Man of Modes:* by George Ardridge. 5.15 **Geology:** *Earth before Man*. 7.20 **Early Music-Hall:** 7.45 **Science Ideas for the Future:** Closedown at 8.10.

9.10 **Horizon on Time:** Sand casting 9.15 **The search for a British baked bean:** 10.00 *You and Me*. 10.15 **Everyday maths** 10.30 **Trigonometry** 11.00 *Cata 11.17 Rhythm* 11.30 **Maths** 12.00 **Maths:** Lines. 11.39 **How we used to live:**

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● Simon was 14 years old when his father collected his sister from school, took her home and strangled her. Now a grown man, Simon talks for the first time in public about the effect his sister's violent death had on him in *WHERE THERE'S LIFE* (ITV 7.00pm). Miriam Stoppard gently copies out the story but it is obviously painful for him to recall the details. Nevertheless the interview sheds an interesting light on the attitude of outsiders towards the victim's family, an attitude that made Simon feel that he was evil just because he was his father's son.

● The Schools three-part serial by Jay Needell that caused a small storm in a teacup recently,

A GAME OF SOLDIERS (ITV 7.00pm)

CHOICE

9.30am, begins this morning. Apparently a number of leading lights in the Falkland Islands community objected to parts of the play which, they claimed, portrayed the islanders as a blood-thirsty horde of hooligans. They must be remarkably thin-skinned. There was nothing I saw to which they could take exception in this story of three children who discover an injured Argentine conscript. The acting is first-class especially from Nicola Cowper as Sarah, the Observer's man in the Falklands, acted as consultant and the rugged, inhospitable landscape of Northumberland is a credible

alternative to the Falklands terrain. This, plus music from the talented Barbara Thompson and John Hiseman, makes the serial a most acceptable introduction to classroom discussions on the nature of violence.

● Nine years ago a Flibborough chemical plant, which had won a national award for safety, exploded. Since then more stringent safety regulations have been introduced but are they fool-proof? Branda Kidman in WHAT PRICE COMPENSATION? (Radio 4 7.20pm) talks to some of the residents of a Lincolnshire village, situated by caves storing liquid petroleum gas, and investigates whether or not the villagers are justified in their feelings of unease.

Johann Strauss (overture: *Walzermeister*), Brahms Two Songs, Op 91, Jeanne Normand, mezzo, *Hursonne* (Piano Concerto in D) with Eric Parkin as soloist. 9.00 News at 9.00pm. 9.05 This Week's Composer: Dvorak. The Panoche Quartet play the String Quartet in F major, Op 96 (Andante and Josef Suk and Alfred Hrdlicka) and the Sonata in G major, Op 100. 10.00 Monteverdi Choir: Gesualdo's Ave dulcissima Maria, and works by Cavalieri and Scarlatti. 11.00 *Spontini:* Sonatas for Violin and Cello. 12.15 *Hans-Gilje:* Gothic madrigals by Ricercaresca. Includes works by Antenes-Joseph, Vilmos-Lobos and Lezz, arr. Iznaga (Cordes oberte).

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Kinnock backs a national minimum wage

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Higher social security benefits, a national minimum wage, and a fair tax system would all be necessary if poverty were to be tackled decisively, Mr Neil Kinnock, the foremost candidate for the Labour Party leadership, said in Birmingham yesterday.

He told a conference on low pay that 7.5 million people in Britain were in poverty, as measured by popular standards of decency, in that they lacked "the basic necessities the rest of us take for granted."

Mr Kinnock said that low wages were a significant direct and indirect cause of poverty. The Government and the Social Democrats believed that it should be dealt with through providing social security to the low-paid, but that only deepened the poverty trap while providing huge subsidies to low-wage firms.

That was why the Labour Party and the Trades Union Congress had held detailed discussions on how to introduce a national minimum wage, which there was considerable public support.

"Of course, we need to be careful in the way that such a minimum wage is introduced," Mr Kinnock said. "Immediate withdrawal to the low-wage subsidy, on which many firms have relied, could cause serious difficulty, but a phased introduction would give them time to adapt."

Seven million people and their families stood to gain directly, while the rest would benefit from the stimulus to economic activity and the creation of jobs.

Saying that the country needed a fairer and more progressive tax system, Mr Kinnock added that capital transfer tax and capital gains tax has been virtually abolished by the present Government, with income tax payers

especially the low-paid, left to pick up the bill.

A more effective system of capital taxation, including an annual wealth tax, was essential to ensure that the wealthy made their proper contribution to revenue and to reduce the present gross inequalities in wealth.

Mr Kinnock said his case was based not on the politics of envy but on the economics of efficiency. The absence of effective wealth taxation encouraged the inefficient use of resources in the production of prestige goods and services, often tax-deductible, for the very rich.

Income tax, with its elaborate array of reliefs providing greatest benefits to the to the best-off, also needed reforming, he said.

Mr Roy Hattersley, favourite for the deputy leadership of the party, also spoke last night in Birmingham and attacked Dr David Owen's speech to the Social Democrats' council in Salford two weeks ago.

Dr Owen did not understand the implication of his "half thought out" economic policy, Mr Hattersley said. His offer of "toughness and tenderness" would mean tenderness to the middle-income groups and toughness towards the lowest paid.

Union hope for Meacher

Mr Michael Meacher's campaign to win the Labour deputy leadership spluttered back into life last night as his supporters circulated reports that he had won the support of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, which has a block vote of 147,000 (Paul Routledge writes).

Gibraltar ship concern

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Ageing and dangerous ships are being transferred in increasing numbers to the newly emerging flag of convenience of Gibraltar, according to the National Union of Seamen (NUS).

The union's leaders decided last week to ignore attempts by Gibraltar's ship owners to negotiate an exclusive recognition deal with the NUS, and will decide how to fight the flag at the International Transport Workers' Federation congress in Madrid in October.

The union is concerned that when British ships transfer to the Gibraltar flag the jobs on board

are taken by foreign citizens, who are paid well below union rates and work in poor conditions.

The Gibraltarian flag – an

emerging rival to the Panamanian and Liberian flags – has come into prominence over the past two years and now 40 vessels are registered there, many of them formerly listed in Britain. Others are from Scandinavia.

Mr Jim Slater, general secretary of the union, said that many of the vessels were "just buckets" and unable to continue to reach the standards demanded by the Royal Yachting Association.

Mr John Durie, Secretary-



Winners and losers: A rueful Mr Dennis Conner, the American helmsman (left); all-night revellers shouting for joy at the Royal Perth Yacht Club; and Australia II's skipper, Mr John Bertrand, with his wife, Roz.

Reagan sends his congratulations

By Rupert Morris

As Australian victory celebrations continued yesterday in Newport, Perth, and Earls Court, President Reagan sent a message of congratulations to Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, and Peter de Savary, the British millionaire, who was keen to have another crack at the America's Cup.

Mr Reagan's message said: "If the America's Cup had to leave the United States, I am delighted that its home will be Australia – at least until the next race. All Australians must be justifiably proud of the extraordinary team effort, skill, and sportsmanship that brought off this magnificent victory."

Although sportsmanship sometimes seemed secondary during this ceaselessly controversial competition, the race in which the United States surrendered its 132-year-old grip on the Cup caught the public imagination all over the world in an unprecedented way.

With news from Newport that the Australians are likely to defend their trophy in Perth in 1988, the talk in British yachting circles will soon be about who will challenge for Britain. At the moment, everyone is waiting for the Royal Perth Club to declare its intentions.

Yacht racing rules prohibit advertising on boats, or on competitors' clothing.

Mr John Durie, Secretary-

General of the Royal Yachting Association, said yesterday: "If the Australians do invite a challenge, then it is likely that someone in Britain will have a go."

Under the present America's Cup rules, which the Royal Perth Yacht Club may choose to vary, it is up to individual yacht clubs to enter. If there is more than one British entrant, they will be expected to fight it out in eliminating heats in Perth.

Mr de Savary, whose syndicate

spent £5m entering the yacht

Victory via the Royal Burgham Yacht Club, said yesterday on BBC Radio 2: "We feel it is a great event and we think we ought to have another go."

He did not, however, give any indication that he was willing to put up the money himself, and there are doubts as to whether he would be able to raise the necessary sponsorship.

The unprecedented media interest and television coverage might appear to offer huge sponsorship opportunities, but the ability of Perth, with its relatively small population, to mount a merchandising operation on the scale usually seen in the United States is questionable.

Yacht racing rules prohibit

advertising on boats, or on

competitors' clothing.

Any boozes who sacks anyone

today for not turning up to work is a barmy", Mr Hawke said. "I

Wave of euphoria sweeps Australia

From Douglas Alton, Melbourne

An extraordinary and highly emotional wave of patriotism swept Australia yesterday from the moment Australia II crossed the line in victory.

The feeling had been building up for weeks, but until the moment of victory no one had dared to believe in it. Before the first race, most Australians were showing only a mild interest in the event, having been dragged through many humiliating defeats in the past two decades.

But by the end of the sixth race, the entire country seemed to have rediscovered a fervent nationalism not felt since the glittering 1950s when Australian athletes such as Herb Elliott and John Landy, swimmers such as John Konrads and Dawn Fraser, and tennis players such as Frank Sedgman and Rod Laver, all conquered the world.

At 5.21 am yesterday, the huge

all-night parties at the Royal

Perth Yacht Club exploded into

hysteria when Australia II took

the honours. Mr Bob Hawke, the

Prime Minister, had tears

streaming down his face and

champagne spraying all about

him as he offered accolades to

every one who had anything to do

with the victory.

Any boozes who sacks anyone

today for not turning up to work is a barmy", Mr Hawke said. "I

don't think I have had a greater

moment of pride."

The Royal Perth Yacht Club is

the home base for the Australia

II challenge. The scene there was

one of delirium. The

club manager, Mr Brian

Geen, ran through the club at

the moment of victory carrying a

poster showing a kangaroo

beating up an eagle. Moments

before, as Australia II was

making its comeback in the final

stages impeccably dressed,

women knelt on the floor and

men lay on the floor in

shirts and trousers.

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